Acknowledgements

It gives me immense pleasure to express my thanks to all those who have been there all the while during my research period, readily lending their help in every possible way.

I take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude to my research guide, Dr. Shridhar P. Gejji, for his unfailing attention, inspiring guidance, constant support and constructive criticism at every point of time. He is more than a teacher to me.

I am grateful to Professor S. B. Padhye, the Head of the Department of Chemistry and Professor S. R. Gadre for providing necessary facilities in the present work.

The immense help extended by my lab-mates Kaustubh, Ujwala, Rahul and D.D. Patil is difficult to express in words.

I express my deepest sense of thanks to Dr. P. K. Chaudhary for his concern.

Wholehearted cooperation extended by Sarang, Suvarn, Bala, Sumant, Prasad, Nikhil, Uday, Babu, Anant, Shailesh, Madhura, Aniruddha, Ganesh, Rameshwar, Jovan, Milind and Ajit has been gratefully acknowledged. Thanks are also to Manju and Dumbre for providing a very cheerful atmosphere.

I acknowledge the financial support from the University Grant Commission (UGC) and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), New Delhi, India.
Last but not the least I am thankful to my parents and my brother, who were of
great moral support throughout my educational career.

Nilesh R. Dhumal