ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I take privilege and feel immense pleasure to record my deepest sense of gratitude and indebtedness to my thesis supervisor, Dr. K.L. Handoo, M.Sc., Ph.D., F.I.C., C.Chem., F.R.I.C. (London), Reader, Department of Chemistry, University of Kashmir, Srinagar, for his valuable guidance, constructive criticism, abiding interest and constant encouragement evinced throughout the investigation as well as in the preparation of this manuscript.

I take this opportunity to express my profound sense of gratitude and sincere thanks to Prof. A.V. Mahajani, Head, Department of Chemistry and to Prof. S.S. Higam, former Head, Department of Chemistry, University of Saugar, Sagar, for providing facilities and encouragement during the course of this investigation.

I am thankful to the Head, Department of Chemistry, University of Kashmir, Srinagar, for providing necessary laboratory facilities during my stay at Srinagar.

My special thanks are due to Prof. P.R. Singh, Department of Chemistry, I.I.T., Kanpur, for his constructive criticism and valuable suggestions received during my visits to I.I.T., Kanpur on various occasions. I am still more grateful to Prof. P.R. Singh for very kindly permitting me to use his laboratory for my practical work.
I take this opportunity to thank Dr. M.S. Bhatnagar for his kind encouragement.

I am thankful to Dr. C.K. Jain, Dr. N. Badve, Dr. S.K. Handoo and (Miss) Kanchan Gauru my research colleagues for their cooperation rendered during the progress of this work. Thanks are also due to Sri K.K. Rastogi for his help in sketching the figures.

Thanks are also due to U.G.C., Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi for providing financial assistance in the form of teacher research fellowship under F.I.P. programme. I am grateful to Dr. M.S. Mehra, Principal, Bareilly College, Bareilly for granting me leave to pursue this doctoral work.

I take pleasure in acknowledging the moral support and affection from my parents-in-law.

I will be failing in my duties if I do not express my deepest sense of gratitude to my parents whose blessings are reflected in each and every page of this thesis.

Last, but not the least, I wish to express my deep appreciation to my wife Smt. Vijai Laxmi, for her patience and understanding during the past so many years.

( YUGENDRA BAHADUR )