<u>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</u>

I take this opportunity to express my feelings of gratitude to all those who helped me during the course of this research work.

I would like to express my deepest regards and sincere gratitude to my research guide Prof.A.K, Rakshit. This work would not have been accomplished without his inspiring guidance, constant encouragement, suggestions and constructive criticisms and above all his invaluable moral support.

I express my gratitude to my co-guide Dr.S.G.T.Bhat, R.L.D, IPCL, Vadodara for his guidance and co-operation during my research tenure. His kind words and advice has always been a source of encouragement.

I am very much thankful to Prof.A.C.Shah and Prof.P.K,Bhattacharya for providing me the necessary infrastructural facilities. I am also grateful to all the teachers of this department for their timely help and suggestions.

The financial assistance from Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited, Vadodara is gratefully acknowledged.

I am thankful to the management of IPCL, Vadodara for extending research and library facilities.

I also acknowledge the help extended to me by Dr.P.V.C.Rao and other R & D scientists and staff during my research work.

Thanks are also due to Prof.S. Telang, Head, Biochemistry Department for providing me the facility for fluorescence measurements. Computation help from Ms. Shilpa Gupta of Mathematics Department is also kindly acknowledged.

I take this opportunity to thank my senior colleagues Dr. Ajith, Dr. A.C. John, Dr. Veena Vangani

and Dr.E.I. Tessy for their help and suggestions.

I feel highly indebted to my friends and colleagues Anuradha, Ambarish and Ismail for their

encouragement, support and providing me with an excellent working atmosphere throughout my

research tenure.

I would be failing in my duty if I don't acknowledge Dr.I.S. Bhardwaj and family who prompted

me to come to Baroda for my Ph.D.

I am grateful to Dr.A.B.Mathur and family for their affection and care they gave me during my

stay here in Baroda.

I am also thankful to my friends in the department Mrs. Pratima, Mr. Sureshan and Ajith. Thanks

are equally due to all my friends at Kasturba Gandhi Hall for their timely help.

Last but not the least! This work would not have been accomplished without the prayers and

blessings, inspiration, affection and encouragement of my loving parents. I also owe my sisters

and brothers-in-law a word of thanks for their love and support.

Finally, I thank Mr. Shirish for the effort that he has taken to bring this thesis to its final form.

- Shireen B Sulthana