

### A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T

I take this opportunity to express my deep respect and gratitude to Dr. C.M.Mehta, for his constant encouragement and guidance at whose suggestion this work was undertaken. I also thank Dr. Suresh Sethna for taking keen interest in the work.

I am deeply grateful to Dr. G.H.Patel, for his inspiration and help ; and Dr. S.S.Lele for the help he rendered in carrying out all the micro analysis.

Finally, I thank all the members of the staff and my colleagues for their kind co-operation they have given to me for all the time.

J. M. Trivedi.