

CHAPTER – 7

THE p-BLOCK ELEMENTS

GLOSSARY :

- **Chalcogens** : Oxygen, sulphur, selenium, tellurium and polonium constitute Group 16 of the periodic table sometime termed as Chalcogens.
- **Disinfectant** : Antimicrobial agents that are applied to non-living objects to destroy microorganisms.
- **p-Block Element** : Groups 13 to 18 of the periodic table, their valence shell electronic configuration is ns^2np^{1-6} (except He which has $1s^2$ configuration).
- **Preservative** : A natural or synthetic chemical that is added to products such as foods, pharmaceuticals, paints, biological samples, wood, etc. to prevent decomposition by microbial growth or by undesirable chemical changes.

- **See-saw geometry** : The geometry of tetrafluorides, SF₄ is a gas, SeF₄ a liquid and TeF₄ a solid, having sp³d hybridization and thus, have Trigonal bipyramidal structures in which one of the equatorial positions is occupied by a lone pair of electrons.