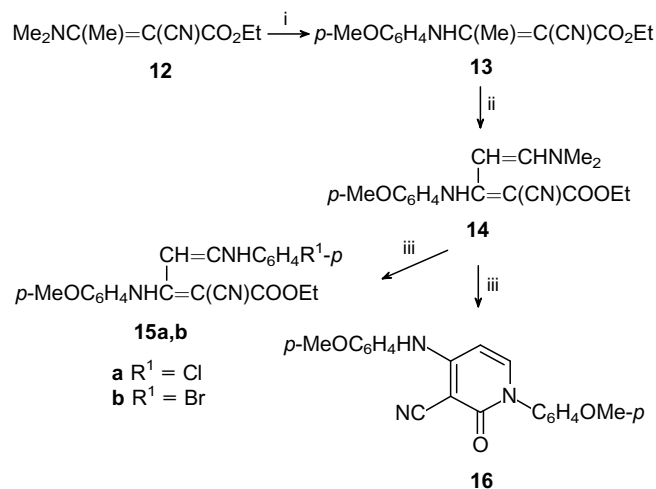


dienediamines **15a,b** are obtained: **15a**, yield 89%, m.p. 165–167 °C (PrⁱOH–dioxane); **15b**, yield 61%, m.p. 169–171 °C (PrⁱOH–dioxane). On using the more basic *p*-anisidine, 1-(*p*-methoxyphenyl)-3-cyano-4-(*p*-methoxyphenylamino)-2-pyridone **16** is isolated, yield 71%, m.p. 256–257 °C (MeOH–DMF), MS *m/z* 347 (M⁺), ¹H NMR ([²H₆]DMSO) δ: 3.77 (3H, s, OMe) and 3.79 (3H, s, OMe), 6.97–7.29 (8H, m, two C₆H₄), 5.76 (1H, d, *J* 8 Hz, 5-CH), 7.56 (1H, d, *J* 8 Hz, 6-CH), 9.37 (1H, br.s, NH).

Thus, as a result of the current investigation a number of



Scheme 3 Reagents and conditions: i, mixture of **12** and *p*-anisidine, reflux in AcOH for 4–5 h; ii, **13** and **2**, reflux for 10 h in toluene; iii, mixture of **14** and substituted aniline, reflux for 5 min in AcOH.

new functionally-substituted dienediamines[§] have been obtained and some factors have been determined which limit

[§] The results of an investigation into the interaction of dienediamine derivatives with quinone derivatives will be published in the following publication.

the possibility of their formation when using the methods described in the present work. At the same time, based on this study, it has proved possible to synthesise previously inaccessible derivatives of 4-pyridone imine, biphenyl and 2-pyridone.

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