It is with an overwhelming sense of gratitude that I wish to express my thanks to Dr. (Mrs) S. Longia, M.D., Reader in the department of Paediatrics, M.L.B. Medical College, Jhansi, under whose able guidance, supervision and immense help, I had the opportunity to carry out this work. She had always been available with ready invaluable suggestions and unending encouragement. Her inspiration fostered me greatly throughout the study and it may not be an exaggeration to say that she is instrumental in the successful completion of the present work.

Words fail to express my deepest sense of gratitude to Prof. Ramesh Kumar, M.D., D.C.H., Head of the department of Paediatrics, M.L.B. Medical College, Jhansi for his constant attention and constructive criticism from time to time which have gone long way towards the successful completion of this study.

I wish to express sincere gratefulness to my revered teacher, Dr. L.D. Joshi, Ph.D., Reader in the
department of Biochemistry, M.L.B. Medical College, Jhansi for his excellent guidance and supervision. He not only boosted my morale showing his personal interest but also went beyond his field to suggest and correct me.

I feel highly obliged to Dr. A. Kaushik, M.D., Lecturer in the department of Paediatrics, M.L.B. Medical College, Jhansi for his expert guidance, valuable advice and unstinting help at every juncture.

I am highly grateful to Dr. R. S. Sethi, M.D., D.C.H., Lecturer in the department of Paediatrics, M.L.B. Medical College, Jhansi who was one of my most sincere helpers fulfilling all my needs and curiosities.

I fail in my duty if I do not appreciate the kind assistance provided by my colleagues Dr. Anil Kumar (Demonstrator in Paediatrics), Dr. O. K. Migam (Senior Resident in Paediatrics), Dr. A. K. Manocha (Resident in Paediatrics), Dr. Deepak Mahrotra, Dr. Devender, Dr. N. P. Karolia, Dr. Anil Gupta, Dr. C. S. Bedi, Dr. A. K. Agarwal, Dr. G. Singh, Dr. Ajay Benara, Dr. H. S. Bhasin, Dr. S. K. Agarwal, Dr. (Miss) Veena Rastogi, Dr. (Mrs) Reeta and Dr. Rajesh Gupta.
I am undoubtedly thankful to Mr. Arun Dattatraya Joshi, who has industriously worked for typing this volume of work. His great capacity and cheerfulness are two gifts which are essential in such work.

I bow in reverence to those malnourished infants and children admitted in M.L.B. Medical College Hospital Jhansi, who have formed the material for this study with a hope to contribute a drop in the vast ocean of present knowledge on the subject, which in the days to come would unleash them from the bonds of agony.

Lastly I am indebted to my wife Dr. (Mrs) Neeta Saxena and honourable parents and brothers, for their understanding and help extended to me throughout the period of study.

Jhansi: ________________________  ( ASHOK KUMAR )
Dated : 27.5.83