Acknowledgement

I express my heartiest gratitude to my guide and supervisor Prof. D. K. Saraf, Department of Zoology, Dr. H. S. Gour University, Sagar for all the support, guidance, encouragement, and for taking time out of his many academic affairs and still managing to guide my research with his ideas. I could not have imagined a better mentor for my PhD. His in-depth knowledge, dedication to work and generosity shall continue to be a source of inspiration to me.

I am obliged to Prof. J.D. Ahi, Head, Department of Zoology, Dr. H.S. Gour University, Sagar (M.P.) for providing requisite facilities, which helped in my research work.

I would like to express my thanks to Head, Department of Pharmacy for providing necessary laboratory facilities to conduct my investigation during the course of this study.

I greatly express my sincere thanks to Prof. S. Banerjee, Prof. M. Bhide, Prof. U. S. Gupta, Dr. S. K. Jain, Dr. V. Sharma, Dr. M. Sikdar, Dr. D. Jat and Dr. P. Mahobia of Department of Zoology for giving constant thoughts which propelled me to work with a winning spirit.

I am highly obliged to Dr. Neelgagan Singh, Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology at University of Delhi (DU) with Dr. Parul Kulshrestha from National Institute of Immunology (NII) for providing necessary facilities to conduct my investigation timely and for their constant encouragement during my course of this study.

I am thankful to all Non Teaching Staff Members of Zoology & Pharmacy Department for their excellent cooperation.

I also thank to my seniors and departmental colleague Dr. Shailendra Badal, Dr. Nagendra Singh, Dr. Bhavna Tiwari, Dr. Meeta Mishra, Dr. Shubra Guha, Dr. Uday K. Tiwari, Dr. Dipti Tomar, Mrs Ruchi Singh, Ms Sulekha, Ms. Rupali, Mr. Anis Ganie, Mr. Adil, Mrs. Divya Pandey, Mr. Hilal, Mr. Parvez, Mr. Kamendra and Ms. Abhilasa from the core of my heart for their constant encouragement and continuous help during my research work.

I would like to acknowledge all my friends especially Ms. Pinki Patel, Mr. Niranjan Das, Mrs. Swati Jain, Mr. Onkar Patil, Mr. Navneet Khurana,
Ms. Kanchan Namdev, Mr. Rajendra, Ms. Prachi and Ms. Garima who gave through support and created a healthy work environment with sweet fond memories.

Special thanks is also due to the University Grant Commission (UGC), Delhi, for awarding me UGC-BSR Meritorious Fellowship, with this enormous help I am able to complete this study.

I am grateful to my respected Uncle Mr. R. K. Rawat for encouragement, co-operation and support not for only this thesis, throughout the life especially in any hardle.

I am indebted for the selfless support, encouragement, love, affection and immense patience imparted by my family. I owe much to them for providing me the comfortable environment and tolerating the swing in my temperament during the entire period of the work.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Mr. R.R. Patel, Network Computer, Sagar, for properly compiling and presenting the work.

Lastly, I thank to the God for kind blessings, providing strong will power and patience at many adverse situations during the entire research work.

Aditi Dubey