ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is my privilege that I have a chance to acknowledge my work and remember the people who directly or indirectly helped me.

The journey of research has no beginning and no end. However, for me it was started by the faith of my research guide Dr. Sujata S. Bhatt, who always believed me, supported me whenever I needed and gave me freedom and space to rediscover and reshape myself. Her enormous effort and faith throughout my doctorate study is invaluable in my life. I am extremely grateful to her for her encouragement and constructive criticism throughout the course of my work. I sincerely thank her for the help rendered by her in completing this work.

My journey of research was funded by University Grants Commission (UGC), New Delhi, as a Project fellow in the major research project conducted by my supervisor Dr. Sujata Bhatt.

I express my sincere thanks to Prof. A. V. R. L. Narasimhacharya. He was always ready to guide me and supported me from the time I joined this department for my masters. Moreover, from his guidance I completed my dissertation work in which I learnt more about how to design the animal experiments. His kind support and sense of humor have been of great help many a times.

With immense pleasure and deep sense of gratitude, I take this privilege to express my thanks to Dr. Amita R. Shah, Reader (Microbiology) for her precious suggestions and her encouragement, splendid help and support during my whole research tenure. Under her guidance I was able to carry out the probiotics experiment during the present research work.

It is my privilege to thank Prof. Datta Madamwar, former Head of the Department, and Prof. K. S. Rao, the present Head of the Department for their kind support and permitting me to conduct my research and providing me with the excellent facilities.

My special regards to Dr. L. B. George, Prof. K. C. Patel, Prof. T. V. Raman Rao, Prof. J. S. S. Mohan, Dr. R. B. Subramanian, Dr. Vasudev Thakkar, Dr. A. S. Reddy, Dr. Ujjval Trivedi, Dr. Haresh Kaheria, and Dr. M. Nataraj for their selfless help and enjoyable time.

My special gratitude to Prof. Subhash Bhatt, Head Department of Mathematics, Sardar Patel University, for his kind support and valuable advice during my research work. I am thankful to Dr. Dhinesh Karia from Mathematics Department and Dr. Vinayak Patel from Home Science Department for helping me.

I also extend my sincere thanks to Dr. Jasmin H. Bavarva, who is one of my best friends and senior in the lab but has never made me feel that I am his
junior. His invaluable support and friendship helped me to overcome the stress many a times.

I express my sincere thanks to Dr. Digvijay K. Rana and Dr. Nishant P. Visavadiya for their valuable advice and friendly help. Their help and guidance in beginning of my research for animal experimentation and techniques was invaluable.

I am very much thankful to my lab mats cum friends Mr. Dhiraj Chavda, Ms. Rupal Vasant, Mrs. Hetal Movaliya, Mr. Shyam Khandhedia, Mr. Sanjay Karn, Ms. Mona Khajuria for their love, affection and constant support to achieve this goal.

My special regards to Dr. Gaurav Dave, Dr. Dhaval Joshi, Dr. Prakash Patel, Dr. Pinakin Dhandhukia, Dr. Janki Thakker, Dr. Kalpesh Isnava, Dr. Farzin Parabia, Dr. Bhavik Acharya and Dr. Sanjay Patel for their help and suggestions.

I am very much thankful to my colleagues and friends Mr. Purvesh Bharavad, Mr. Himanshu Bariya, Mr. Harsur Jajda, Ms. Durgesh Nandini, Mr. Vishal Oza, Mr. Pritesh Parmar, Mr. Amit Thakkar, Mr. Kunal Jain, Mr. Digant Chapla, Mr. Varun Shah, Ms. Asha Parmar, Mr. Hitesh Patel, Ms. Nainika Patel, Mr. Bhaumik Dave, Mr. Pramod, Mr. Vinay Patel, Mr. Sandip Patel, Mr. Jay Pandya and Mr. Dhananjay Patel, Mr. Bargav Bavarva, Mr. Vimal Bhanushli and Mr. Kamlesh Rathod for their love, affection and constant support to achieve this goal.

I would like to extend my special thanks to Mrs. Neha Panicker and Ms. Tripti Raghavadra for their valuable, constructive suggestions motivation, inspiration and all fun time that kept me buoyant throughout the course of my research tenure.

I am also thankful to Mr. Dharmesh Raikundaliya, Lecture in Statistic Department (Sardar Patel University), Mrs. Nithi Raikundaliya, Lecture in Mathematics (Gujarat Collage, Ahemdabad) and Mr. Idrishbhai Vohra and family for their constants supports me as a family.

I am also thankful to Mr. G. C. Vakani, Assistant Director of Fisheries Department (Anand), Mr. R. A. Patel, AFO, and Mr. S. D. Rathod for providing me fingerling of IMCs for my experiment.

I would also like to thanks Mr. H. N. Patel, Chairman, Charotar Animal Feeds Pvt. Ltd., Vithal Udhyog Nagar, Anand for very fruitful discussions. I am also thankful to Dr. Nitesh Mishty, Aum enzymes (Borsad), Mr. Sonavala, Anil Starch (Ahmadabad), and Mr. Shirishbhai, Atul Feeds (Jitodia) for provide me raw material for my experiment.

I am grateful to my colleagues and friends Mr. Manish Ajudiya, Mr. Nitesh Mathukiya and Mr. Chandrash Dave who have made my study period a memorable and enjoyable one.
I am especially thankful to Mr. Ranjit Rathva for maintaining my fishes and helping me in my animal experimental work. His support made a valuable difference in my output, as he was always available at any time. Without his help, this study would never be as smooth as it was.

It’s a great gift of GOD to me that I have been always inspired and supported by all the teachers from my primary to doctorate education. I heartily thank all my teachers.

I have great sense of feelings toward the Department of Biosciences, Sardar Patel University and the faculty members. I joined the department when I was blank. The Department gave me identity, changed my whole thinking and attitude and ultimately changed my whole life. I will be forever thankful to the department for giving me so much that I never expected.

I remember the day when I left my home for Vallabh Vidyanagar for higher studies; it was very difficult to control my emotions. I had a dream to go up and study in English medium. I had very few things with me. But I was very rich with the well wishes of my father Mr. Govindbhai J. Chovatiya and my mother Mrs. Kiranben G. Chovatiya. They are the happiest persons in the world when I am achieving something. Their joy is everything in my life. I am a very small person to thank them or give them anything in return for their sacrifices. Throughout my masters they were not even aware of Vallabh Vidyanagar’s location. What I am going to do? What will I do after my study? Whether I am doing well or not? It’s all because of their faith I have always feel responsibility in my life. Their unconditional support and sacrifices made me more and more responsible in life. Their blessings are invaluable for me. My elder sisters Mintuben G. Chovatiya and Alpaben G. Chovatiya gave me unstinted support whenever I needed. Many times they became my boss when I was unable to think and act on my own. Many times, working under my new boss was my pleasure and one of the memorable times. I have a deep sense of gratitude to loving and cheering Chovatiya family. I will be unable to say thanks to my family for everything.

I thank ‘GOD - The Almighty’ for everything. His kindness toward me is abundant and limitless. Without His kindness nothing would be possible for me.