ABSTRACT OF THE Ph. D. THESIS

Fishes are important components of the ecosystem. They are very important from the ecological & economical point of view. Man uses many fishes as a delicious & nutritious food. Similarly also produce several important products like cod liver oil & leather etc. Where as fishes are the important and rich source for food. They are not only providing immense & valuable products for the man, but also enhance the beauty of the nature.

The infection of cestode parasites are found in vertebrates. There are no estimates of population suffering from cestode infections, but infections are very common in people who are eating poorly cooked or uncooked meat, unhygienic habits & poor sanitation.

Infection leads to anemia, complications and protracted illness. There are an upsurge of parasitic diseases in the country. Parasitic diseases are the major public health problems of tropical countries including India. They infect man and also invade domestic animal and wild life.

The cestode infections are very common to the man, domesticated animals and wild life. In the areas with poor socio-economic status endemic cestode infections are very common. Unhygienic living and food habits promote the spread of infection causing high morbidity and complications.

The cestode parasites are multicellular, bilaterally Symmetrical and of great importance to human health. Therefore there is a need to study cestode whose prevalence is high in the country. Cestode
infections are among the major parasitic diseases in India and other tropical countries. Although the morbidity and mortality due to such infection is not alarming, they adversely affect the general health, physical and mental health and growth of children and the productivity of an adult.

Cestode infections continue to be major global public health concern because of their very high prevalence ill effect on both nutritional and immunological status of human population.

Their prevalence and impact are particularly intense in countries with tropical climate, poor Sanitation, low standard of living and poor health education.

An about 3500 millions cases of helminthiasis exist at present, worldwide. However, since cestode infections are usually asymptomatic and not always regarded as serious diseases.

As every species of parasitic possess its own particular problem, it is essential to be quite sure of identity of the species on deal with. Therefore on accurate classification is necessary for the completion of this study.

Similary keeping in mind the food value and economic importance of fishes the author has undertaken the work of systematic, morphology, Biochemistry and Seasonal Variation of the cestode parasites of fishes from the locality of Ratnagiri, Akola, Amravati and Aurangabad, District (M.S.) India.