ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am extremely grateful to my research guide and teacher Dr. Tarak Nath Khan, Associate Professor in Zoology of Maulana Azad College for suggesting the problem and his ever sincere guidance and support in the progress of my research work. I pay my tribute to his Excellency as a guide in research and wildlife photography, as a teacher and above all as a person with simple, evergreen and artistic mind.

I am also grateful to the Principal, Maulana Azad College and Head of the Zoology Department, Prof. Subir Chandra Dasgupta for their continuous support and encouragement in my research.

I am grateful to Council of Scientific and Industrial Research for providing me the research fellowship and funding for an important part of this work. I am also grateful to the University Grants Commission for supporting a part of this work.

Special thanks are due to Sri Prantik Hazra, UGC – Senior Research Fellow of Ecology and Wildlife Biology lab., Zoology Department, Maulana Azad College, for his active participation both in the field and laboratory works unless which I could not be able to complete this work.

Thanks are also due to the post graduate students (Ecology Special paper) of the department of Zoology of Maulana Azad College for their assistance in the field work.

The cooperation of the local people around the study sites is also gratefully acknowledged.

I am greatly indebted to my parents without whose support and encouragement this work could not have been completed.