ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I express my profound gratitude and since thanks to Dr. (Mrs) K. RADHA SHANMUGASUNDARAM, M.Sc., Ph.D., (SHEFFIELD) A.R.I.C. (London), Professor and Head, Department of Biochemistry, Dr. A.L.M., Post Graduate Institute of Basic Medical Sciences, University of Madras, Taramani Campus, Madras for inspiring me to do this piece of work. Her continuous encouragement and valuable guidance has been indispensable in the completion of this work.

I am grateful to Dr. E.R.B. SHANMUGASUNDARAM, M.A., B.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.I.C. (London), F.C.S. (London), Former Professor and Head, Department of Biochemistry, University of Madras, Guindy Campus, for his kind advice and encouragement.

I would like to thank Dr. DEEPAK SEN and Dr. J. JACOB of Kalpakkam Medical Hospital, IGCAR, for providing clinical samples, investigated in this study.

I would like to thank Dr. C. RADHAKRISHNAN, M.V.Sc., Assistant Professor, Department of Clinics, Madras Veterinary College and Mr. T.S. SAMPATHKUMAR, Ph.D., Lecturer, Department of Nuclear Physics, University of Madras, for having shown keen interest in my work and for their kind help.
Thanks are due to friends, senior research scholars and staff members of the department for their help in times of need.

DATE: 16.11.'92

R. UMAMAHESWARI.