From the core of my heart I express my profound gratitude to respected Dr. Neelu Gupta (Associate Professor, Department of Pathology, College of veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry, Anjora, Durg) for her proper guidance, active supervision and incessant encouragement for the research work of this thesis.

I am also thankful to Dr. G. D. Sao (Principal, Govt. Arts and Science College, Durg) and Professor (Mrs.) P. Ghosh (Head of the Department of Zoology, Govt. Arts and Science College Durg) for facilities provided in the Department.

I am thankful to Dr. Singh (Director, Govt. Poultry farm, Padmanavpur, Durg) for his full co-operation in collecting the quails.

I am deeply indebted and would like to express my profound sense of gratitude to Dr. N. N. Ghosh (Retd. Head of the Department of Zoology, Govt. Arts and Science College, Durg) for his valuable suggestions in compilation, drafting and preparation of this thesis.

I am greatful to my colleagues, Dr. (Mrs.) K. Choubey and Prof. (Mrs.) M. Roy for their kind support, continuous encouragement and unconditional help.

It give me a great pleasure to record my deep sense of gratitude to my mother without whose inspiration, continuous help and
encouragement and blessing, it would not have been possible for me to complete this work.

I am also thankful to my husband shri P. L. Sahu for his constant help and caring attitude during this period and also for compiling this work. Special loving thanks to my son Nilay and daughter Disha.

I extend my sincere thanks to all those persons and my well-wishers who helped me for this work directly or indirectly.