ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Just as a coconut tree bears the weight of coconuts on its head and gives nectarine water throughout its life in return for a little water that was given to it during the first year; in the same way a person should never forget the help that one had received.

My Guru: My guide Dr. B. Suresh, thank you for your great supervision and instrumental support during my Ph.D. work. I also thank you for believing in me, and for going the extra mile when it was necessary, in order to make this happen. Your ideals, ideas and concepts have had a remarkable influence on my entire career in the field of toxicology. I seek your support and guidance for the road ahead.

I would like to thank The Head, Department of Zoology for providing me with all the necessary facilities to carry out my research work. I also wish to express my warm and sincere thanks to Dr. Pragna Parikh, Dr. Dolly Kumar, Dr. Kauresh Vachharajani, Dr. Prakash Pillai and Dr. Devkar for their kind support not only for my research, but also for the departmental work during this research.

“One who reads, writes, sees, inquires, lives in the company of learned men, his intellect expands like the lotus leaf does because of the rays of sun.”

Dr. Isha Desai, whose words are very important for me, whose ability to tackle the known and unknown situations, always showed great belief in me, encouraged me and motivated me. Thank you ma’am, for being around during my entire research work; I thank you in advance for the future.

I am also indebted to Dr. Tapas Nag (SAIF, New Delhi), Dr. Yadav (HOD, Pharmacy department), Dr. Dhiren Kapadiya (Veterinary officer, Animal disease investigation office), Mr. Vijaybhai (Patholab in-charge). Without their support it could not have been possible to compile this thesis.

Acknowledgement
The pleasure is mine to give whole-hearted thanks to my strong lab supporter Dr. Pratyush Patankar.

My gratitude to my fellow lab-mates Ms. Hiral and Mr. Pranav for editing thesis work. Also I thank Ms. Zalak, Ms. Tejal and Mr. Jaimesh for their support in research work.

My special thanks to Dr. Gowri Uggini and Mr. Tushar Panot for their support.

During this work I have collaborated with many researchers for whom I have great regard, and I wish to extend my warmest thanks to all those who have helped me with my work.

“While working hard we do feel a bit of sadness on having to spend less time with our family. But surely in future when we think of ‘that’ work, it gives us the happiness and satisfaction. Ajay Roy, the strong pillar stood by me all the time - be it professional or personal, be it taking care of me or my research or our daughter Dhanushka, he was very supportive, caring and understanding... I think adjectives will go short but what he did for me will not. This was the testing period not only for me and Ajay but also for our darling daughter Dhanushka. I still remember my little toddler when she was of only eight months! I set my foot towards this long journey and never realised how time flew. She has been very understanding; yes, she understood that her mamma is doing ‘some important work’, and so she never threw tantrums. I know at the age of four she is not going to be able to read this, but I wish to tell the world, (and also her when she grows up) that I am very proud of my daughter.

In this journey I found a precious friend, Ms. Anusree Pillai. She has become my extended family member. I don’t know when from a student she became such a close companion the and transaction was so smooth that now I regard her to be my sister. I always remember the words that you used for me with strong belief “Usme kya he, ho jayega”. It was not only Anusree but also her family who supported me with trust.

It is said the father is the preceptor one who gives the knowledge, one who offers food, saves us from fear. My parents: my momapa have inculcated the principles and ethics which have helped me remain balanced and steady throughout my research. They taught me that “The six faults should be avoided by a person who wishes to attain prosperity, viz.,
sleep, drowsiness, fear, anger, indolence and procrastination. His understanding of life and how to sustain in adverse situations in life has given me the strength. He is my role model.

I take opportunity to present my sincere affection and deep feeling of love for my sisters, Shital and Tejal, my brother Sushil, Dr. Mehul, my Jijaji who always stood by me during research and I wish same for the future too, Mr. Jayesh, just like a brother understood my problems and made others to understand them.

Last but not least, I would like to thank my father in law Mr. Narayan who has great belief in me, my mother in law Mrs. Kamala, who gave me relief in every possible way from my social responsibilities. Mr. Yogesh and Mr. Alpesh (brothers-in-laws) and Mrs. Hemlata and Mrs. Alka (sisters-in-law), my deep gratitude for your great support.

Kids in the family Devanshu, Rutva, Jimmy, Dhaumya and Dhyom - I am obliged for your soothing relaxing smiles and love.

I am thankful to the Almighty for blessing me with strength and all mentioned as my support system.

Hetal Roy