ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I wish to express my sincerest gratitude and indebtedness to my supervisor, Dr. A.K. Raizada, M.Sc., Ph.D., Reader in the Department of Zoology, Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar (M.P.) for his inspiring guidance, and for the keen interest he has taken throughout the course of this investigation.

I take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude to Professor B.K. Srivastava, Head, Department of Zoology, Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar for providing laboratory facilities as well as for his constant encouragement.

I am very much thankful to Professor S.P. Banerjee, Head, Department of Chemistry and Dr. Mrs. S. Raizada, Department of Chemistry for providing literature on the application of zeolites and for their suggestions which were of immense help during the course of this investigation.

I express my thanks to Dr. P.R. Rajiv and other colleagues and friends for their help and encouragement.

Supply of free sample of zeolite by Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited, Vadodara division, Thane is gratefully acknowledged.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the assistance received from Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi in the form of Junior Research Fellowship.

My words of affectionate gratitude are reserved for my parents and other family members who continually encouraged me. I am also indebted to my wife, Anita and daughter Anshu for their patience and support during the research period.

(Abhinandan Kumar Jain)