ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Success in life can be defined as the continued expansion of happiness and the progressive realization of worthy goals. Moreover, success is a journey, not a destination.

In order to make my journey of success, comfortable, a number of people have directed me with their inevitable guidance, skills and have showed their concern on me during the entire course of work and has given me an opportunity to complete my Ph.D. which gave me exposure to the modern research world.

I express my most sincere gratitude to my supervisor Prof. O.P. Agrawal, (Former Vice Chancellor, J.U., Former Head School of Studies in Zoology, J.U., Director IGAEERE, J.U., Member of Executive Council, J.U. and Co-Ordinator of Vermi-Biotechnology Centre, J.U.) and co-supervisor Prof. G.B.K.S. Prasad (Dean, faculty of Life Sciences, J.U.), School of Studies in Biochemistry, Jiwaji University, Gwalior for his untiring supervision, invaluable guidance, precious suggestions and in-depth discussions during entire course of my research work.

I am pleased to record my thanks to Prof. Sangeeta Shukla, Vice-Chancellor of this esteemed university for her selfless support, constant encouragement and many sorts of help during the course of study which is difficult to describe in words.

I am sincerely thankful to Prof. I. K. Patro, Head of the Department, School of Studies in Zoology for providing me laboratory and library facilities.

I express my deep sense of gratitude to Retd. Prof. D. N. Saksena, Prof. A. K. Jain, Prof. P. K. Tiwari, Prof. R. J. Rao (Rector of Jiwaji University) for providing excellent support, enthusiastic encouragement and diligence in coordinating my work, which made my research work smooth.

I am highly indebted to Mrs. Renu Agrawal for her motherly care and moral support.

I can never forget to acknowledge the unconditional, unshakable and indispensable support and contribution made by Gajendra Singh Rajpoot, Suheel Ahmad Ganai and Muddasir Bashir who helped me in every step of my research work and without them it was impossible to gave shape to my research study where it is today. It is my great
privilege to mention the role of my friends Dr. Arvind Tiwari who helped me in animal study of my research and Dr. Jaya Chaturvedi who helped me in histological study and compilation of this thesis.

It will be an injustice if I do not offer my profound indebtedness to my laboratory colleagues Puneeta Dandotiya, Hemant Samadhia, Priyanka Parashar, Shivendra Pratap Singh Kushwah, Sakhabat Khan and research mates of endocrinology lab of School of Studies in Zoology, Dr. Sadhna Shrivastava, Dr. Arvind Shakya, Neelu Sinha, Amita Jaswal and Deepak Sharma, Chandan Singh Sagar from School of Studies in Biochemistry who not only helped me in my research work but also provided me constant moral support during my entire study.

I feel great pleasure to express thanks to my friend Akash Pachauri for their kind help in statistical data analysis.

My special appreciation goes to Ramniwas Singh Kushwah, whose selfless and unconditional help rendered me wordless because he provide me help and support during my study. I am also thankful to Retd. Clerk A. K. Gupta, H. S. Bhadauria, Bharat Lal Sharma, Ram Swaroop Sharma, Khem Chand and other non-teaching staff of School of Studies in Zoology for their constant help and support.

I owe my profound indebtedness to my parents Shri Surendra Singh Chauhan and Smt. Shakuntala Chauhan for their assiduous help, sustained love, pious blessings and encouragement to emerge me as a successful individual. It’s of course a pleasure to acknowledge my family members my Bhaiya Anoop Singh Chauhan, Bhabhi Arti Chauhan, my loving niece Gauri and nephew Vansh and my in-laws for their constant support.

I have no words to express my gratitude to my loving wife Dr. Jyoti Tomar who gave me, my life my son “Kanha” and always encouraged and uplifted me by making me aware of the fact that “Our greatest glory is never falling but in rising every time we fall”. Her support and persistent confidence enabled me to complete my thesis.

I would like to thank Defence Research and Development Establishment (DRDE), Jhansi Road, Gwalior for financial assistance in the form of Project Fellowship.
I cannot possibly name all those who helped me in the completion of this work. So I express my gratitude to all those who have directly or indirectly pushed this work towards its goal.

I pray the Almighty for a heavenly abode for all the Earthworms and Rats that were parts of this study for a noble cause of mankind.

Praval Singh Chauhan