ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It gives me immense pleasure to express my sincere and heartfelt gratitude towards my Research Guide Dr. (Ms.) M. V. Walvekar, Assistant Professor in Cell Biology, Department of Zoology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur for her versatile guidance, encouragement, constant support, motivation and scholastic criticism right from the selection of the research problem till the completion of the work. This research would not have been completed without her kind cooperation.

I extend my thanks to Head of the Department Prof. T. V. Sathe and former Head Prof. G. P. Bhawane, department of Zoology, for providing me the necessary facilities to carry out this research and encouragement for completion of the work. Similarly I express my gratitude to the university authorities, the teaching and non-teaching staff of Department of Zoology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, for helping and extending their valuable co-operation throughout the research work.

I express my special thanks to Dr. (Mrs.) Shreya R. Patil, Research Associate ICMR Project, and Dr. (Mrs.) Radhika N. Mote for their kind co-operation and all kinds of assistance during the work.

I would also like to record my sincere thanks to my friends and research colleagues Ketaki Methe, Priti Sarvalkar, Shilpa Khairmode, Swarna Pol, Nilofar Shaikh, Jyoti Chavan, Sayra Nadaf, Vibhavari Potdar, Swapnaja Kamble, Yogesh Koli, Sunil Londhe, Sanindhar Gaikwad, Vrushali Velhal and all other research students in the department.

I would like to express my special thanks to Shri. Prasad Desai, Shri. Ghodake, Shri. Salunkhe for their kind cooperation through my entire work.
I express my special thanks to Dr. Chandrasakar Sagar and his staff for providing me the facility of transmission electron microscopy at National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore and UGC New Delhi for providing me the financial support for completion of work.

Last but not least I would feel immense pleasure to express my gratitude and warm regards towards my parents Mr. Parasharam Bhopale, Mrs. Mangal Bhopale and my sister Geeta and brother Vikrant for their constant support and encouragement.

Lastly, I am thankful to all my well wishers.

Place: Kolhapur
Date:

Miss. Lata Parasharam Bhopale
(Research student)