ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I render my heartfelt gratitude to my research guide Dr. D. Annadurai, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, CAS in Marine Biology for his liberal attitude, unwavering support, refreshing smile, comprehensive discussion and constructive criticism, painstaking attention in planning and execution of my project work, which is one of the most rewarding experiences in my life. I also thank him for all the benefits and support received during the study period.

I thank Prof. Dr. K. Kathiresen, Dean and Director of C.A.S, in Marine Biology for providing me all the necessary facilities and supports.

It is my immense pleasure in revealing by sincere gratitude and indebtedness to describe Dr. S. Sethupathy, MBBS, M.D., Medical Biochemistry who introduced me to this field and for his inspiring encouragement, sound advice, valuable guidance and discussion in every phase of my project work, but for his motivation, this work would not have taken place.

I take this opportunity to thank, Dr. K. Raja, Dr. A.R. Nasser, Dr. K. Kumeresan and Dr. S. Saravanan Assistant Professors in the Centre of marine biology for their kindness, encouragement and timely support.

I am indebted forever to my Research Colleagues, Mr. R. Stephen, Mr. S. Bharathiraja, Dr. V. Sekar and Mr. R. Rajesh for their unfailing help, encouragement, kind words and valuable suggestions
during my project work. I thank one and all for their co-operation in establishing in the field of my activity.

Friends in need are really friends in deed. This would aptly suit my dearest friends Dr. J. Subburaj and Mr. T. R. Barathkumar for their personal support, timely help and encouragement throughout my research which will be remembered forever.

No words to express gratefulness thanks to my friendly fishermen Mr. S. Ramaiya and Mr. A. Vikraman, for their valuable help during the collection of specimen fishes.

I am thankful to Library & ENVIS Staff Members, CAS in Marine biology for their help in collecting my scientific data’s.

I am extremely grateful to CMLRE for the financial support offered in the form of JRF.

I would also like to thank my brother Mr. K. Selva Kumar (Laksha Computers), Therkiruppu, Annamalainagar, Chidambaram, for the neat and excellent execution of the thesis.

I would also like to thank my beloved uncle Mr. A. S. Gandhi Doss for his encouragement, valuable suggestions, immense support and criticism during preparation of the manuscript and also the period of study.