On the verge of completion, it is one of my greatest joys to look over to the past and to remember and thank all the persons who made this journey possible.

I am indebted to my supervisor, Dr. Mamta Chawla-Sarkar, for her patience and efforts to educate me with the basics and the spirit of the research. Without your optimism and endurance, my thesis would never have come to an end. Words will be woefully inadequate to express my gratitude for you “Mam”. **THANK YOU.**

Dr. Sagartirtha Sarkar is one of the best teachers that I have had in my life. I am dedicating this work to you “SIR”. You lit the light and the path has eliminated. Your blessings will light the path that I walk in future. I am indebted to you for the invaluable lessons I have learnt from you. Thank you Sir.

I would like to thank Dr. Sekhar Chakraborty, the former director-in-charge and Dr. Santa Dutta the present director-in-charge and head of the virology division of National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases (NICED), for granting me the privilege to continue my work in this esteemed institute.

Thanks to convener and member of the Ph.D. committee, department of zoology, University of Calcutta for allowing me to register myself as a Ph.D. student of this exalted university.

I sincerely thank Okayama University, Japan and U.G.C., India for providing research fellowship to me to carry out my research work.

I would especially like to thank my lab mates. During the early days, I was welcomed by the warmth of Shiladitya da, Umesh da, Parikshit da, Satabdi di, Dipanjan da, Mukti da, Anurodh da, Anupam da,
Mehuli di, Tapasi di, Rahul. Together we have spent many memorable moments. From beginning I have enjoyed the company of Satabdi di and shared our research and other thoughts together. Later on Satarupa, Poulomi, Anindita, Arpita, Upayan joined our lab and their presence keep the spirit of this lab awake, I am really thankful to them. The presence of Madhu da, Nataraju da was really charming for all of us. I would like to acknowledge the support and care by other members of the lab; Shyamal da, Malay da, Swati di, Papiya di, Ashish da were always been our lifeline in this lab.

A special thanks to my Ma and Baba. Your prayer for me is what sustained me thus far. My parents receive my deepest gratitude for their boundless love, support and sacrifice. I would like to deeply acknowledge Buro, Didibhai, Jamaibabu, Sonu & Riju. You all gave efforts to maintain the spirit of this journey. Special thanks to my new father-in-law and mother-in-law for their undying patience, love and support.

At the end I would like express deepest appreciation to my beloved husband Subimal. You have shared all my dream, happiness, pain and dream. You have criticize me, appreciated me, point out my faults, and encourage me. Many times you have delayed your works for helping me regarding this thesis. Thank you for being my eternal strength.

Once again, I thank you all.

Thank you almighty.

Shampa Chanda