Acknowledgements

It gives me an immense pleasure to express my deep sense of gratitude and indebtedness to my esteemed research supervisor Dr. Varun Parmar, Associate Professor, Department of Geology, University of Jammu, for his valuable guidance, advice, untiring help both in field as well as in laboratory, during the course of this work. It's a big honor for me to get an opportunity to work under his valuable guidance and be able to complete it. He has been a great source of inspiration, a torch bearer and a true guiding light in my life. Without his constant monitoring and support it would be an impossible task for me to complete this thesis and give it a desirable shape.

I am thankful to Prof. Pankaj K Srivastava, Head, P.G. Department of Geology, University of Jammu, for providing the necessary facilities to work. I also acknowledge Prof. G. M. Bhat and Prof. R. K. Ganjoo (Former Heads) under whose tenures I also carried out my research work.

I am grateful to all the faculty members of the department for their necessary help and guidance during the course of my study.
Special thanks are due to Dr. Somnath Kundal, Assistant Professor of the department for his help with photomicrography.

I am highly thankful to Prof. G. V. R. Prasad, CAS, University of Delhi, Delhi, for his valuable and helpful comments.

I am also thankful to all the members of the non teaching staff of the department for their cooperation; in this regard; special thanks are due to Mrs. Radha Bharti (librarian).

I wish to extend my sincere thanks to my senior and fellow lab mates (VPL), Dr. Deepak Kumar, Mr. Tsetan Jigmet, Mr. Rahul Magotra, Mr. Kshetrimayum Deepak Singh and Mr. Lobzang Palden for being extremely helpful and cooperative in all aspects of work be it in a field or a laboratory.

Thanks are due to my friend Mr. Thinles Chosphel (DRDO) and Mr. S. S. Kotwal for helping me during the course of my geological field work.

I am also thankful to all the research scholars of the department for their support and cooperation.

I also acknowledge the financial assistance provided by CSIR, New Delhi, in the form of JRF and SRF. Without the financial
support it would have been difficult to undertake this strenuous and laborious work of palaeontology.

I am also thankful to the DG, GSI, for allowing me to continue my Ph.D. research work after joining the GSI, office.

Special thanks are due to Ms. S. Nouskit, Nomo Pal, Nono Tuntun and Padma for the great hospitality during my stay at Jammu, and also for helping me in various ways.

At last I would like to thank all my family members for their cooperation, understanding and support for these many years, especially my brother Geshe Lobzang Samstan and Geshe Guge Gyabung Tulku.

Rigzin Norboo