

P R E F A C E

The Zoology Laboratory of Shivaji University is engaged in extensive research on mucosubstances, lipids, proteins and highly active enzymes such as acid phaspotase, non-specific estrase etc., in the reproductive organs of invertebrates and vertebrates. The studies incorporated in the present thesis from a part of this extensive research scheme and concerned with the comparative histological study and histochemical characterization of the mucosubstances of some reproductive. Parts of woman like uterus, cervix and ovary in normal and cancerous condition.

The present thesis is divided into seven chapters. The first chapter includes brief review of the existing histological and histochemical literature about normal and cancerous reproductive tract of woman. The same chapter also includes reasons that stimulated to undertake the present investigation and outlines of the plan of the proposed work. The material and methods used in present investigation were described in second chapter.

Chapters 3 to 6 records the detailed histological and histochemical observation in different parts of reproductive tract of women like corpus, uteri, cervix uteri, vagina and ovary. The observations are supplimented with tabulated

form and photomicrographically. Efforts have been made to make each chapter complete with references to critical analysis, of the literature, observations and discussion. The last chapter is followed by concluding remarks. The thesis ends with the bibliography of the vast literature cited in the various chapters.