

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am very much glad to acknowledge the people who have contributed to this work, I owe deep gratitude to so many people for their help, that pages would be required simply to list them all. The following are pre-eminent

First and foremost, I must acknowledge my research guide, Dr. P.D. Raut, Reader, Head Environment Science, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, for suggesting this topic, for guiding my work and for the successful completion of this thesis. He has been a constant source of inspiration to me and is instrumental in training me as a research worker. But for this able guidance, interesting criticism on the observations and many intelligent and inspiring discussions, the present work would not have been completed as successfully as it has now been.

With great pleasure I offer my indebtedness and heartfelt gratitude to my esteemed teacher Dr. Mrs. A. A. Kanase, Professor, Department of Zoology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur. She has been another source of inspiration to me in taking this field of enquiry into which I was not initiated earlier.

I express my sincere gratitude towards Dr. G. P. Bhavane, Professor and Head, Department of Zoology, who looked after me during the course of my M. Phil research. I extend my sincere thanks to Prof. Dr. D. V. Muley, Prof. Dr. T. V. Sathe, Dr. M. P. Bhilave, Dr. Mrs. M. Walvekar and Dr. S. M. Yankanchi and Dr. Nitin Kamble.

I deem it my pleasant duty to offer thanks to Dr. Mrs. M. M. Pillai and Dr. J. Samant for their valuable support.

I extended my heartfelt thanks to the all non teaching staff of Zoology Department, specially Shri. D. B. Mandlik, Senior Lab Assistant. I find no words to express my sentiments and regards for all Mandlik family for helping me in bivalve collection and their valuable emotional support.

I express my sincere gratitude to my teacher and friend Mrs. Preeti Shinde madam because she taught me how to solve the problems which create during research work,

I would like to place on record my thanks to all my research friends, Varsha Honkalas, Chavan Jyoti, Desai Abhi, Toraskar Savita, Bawalekar Priya, Fadnis Sayali, Kamble Julee, Ghatage Neeta, Mane Ashish, Chandagade Chadrashekar, Chonde Sonal, Jadhav Vikas and Anup.

I am thankful to Mr. Pawar for statistic department, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Amit Pawar, Miss. Deepali Keluskar, Mr. Kshirsagar S.S., Mr. Kadolikar pravin and Aland sir for their valuable support.

I extended my heartfelt thanks to my sister Vanita Harer and Mr. Shivaji Harer for helping their valuable emotional support and me in bivalve collection.

My obliesance to parents and my all family for their forbearance all through my M.Phil work,

Archana Injal