

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*Praises and thanks to the God, the Almighty, for his showers of blessings throughout my research work to complete the research successfully. Before God, first and foremost, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my Ph.D. supervisor **Prof. Tamishraha Bagchi** for accepting me into his group and for continuous support of my Ph.D study and research, his valuable guidance, patience, motivation, enthusiasm, and immense knowledge. I am thankful for his constant moral support, constructive advice and criticism and allowing me to work in my own way. He has always been a great inspiration to my personal and academic life.*

*Besides my advisor, I would like to thank my committee members **Prof. G. Naresh Kumar, Dr. J. Manjrekar** and **Prof. G. Archana (HOD)** for their encouragement, insightful comments, and for their interest in my work.*

*I extend my sincere thanks to **Dr. M. Nair, Dr. A. Nerurkar, Prof. S. Ingle, Dr. P. Vyas, Dr. N. Baxi, Dr. D. Gajjar** and all the faculties of the department for their timely assistance, valuable suggestions and blessings.*

*I acknowledge the **Department of Biotechnology (DBT)**, New Delhi, India, for their financial support throughout my research work that helped me to preform my work comfortably.*

*I thank my lab seniors, **Dr. Akhilesh Dhanani, Dr. Parul Shrivastava** and **Dr. Abhik Shaha** for their guidance, care and assistance in my early days of work. I thank you immensely for all that I learned from you. I would like to thank **Ruchi** and **Sejal** for being a good friends, supporting me whenever needed and for making work in the lab very enjoyable.*

*I thank **Ashutosh** and **Ragitha** being a caring friends, their unconditional support, and constant encouragement, cheering me up and stood by me through the good and bad times.*

*I also thank to all my friends from school days to my graduation especially **Neetu, Rashami, Ritu, Pooja, Prachi, Rachana, Seema, Ajay, Anoop, Abid, Devesh, Ravi, Anil, and Manish**. All my friends deserve my heartfelt thanks for their undeterred moral support.*

*I thank to my room owner **Dinesh uncle and Davila aunty**, for there care and love as like parents. Thank you aunty for her delicious foods that makes me happy. I really had peaceful days in your house, so that I preformed my work (Ph.D.) comfortably.*

*I thank all the research students, present and past, of the department for their encouraging thoughts and invaluable suggestions. I thank **Mampi, Palak, Sneha, Hema, Prachi, Anjali, and Bhusan**, my dissertation students for helping me with the work. It was great fun working with you all.*

*I am extremely thankful to all the **non-teaching staffs**, especially **Nitesh bhai, Shirish bhai, Kenneth bhai, Mayur bhai, Chirag bhai, Nair bhai, and Varghese bhai** for all their assistance and making administration work easy. I am also thankful to all the other **non-teaching staff** of the department for helping along in different tasks. I am thankful to the staff at the **Faculty of Science office** as well as the **University office** for their timely help and support.*

*I express my heartfelt gratitude towards all my **teachers** starting from my school days to my graduation. I would like to thank all the people whom I may not remember while writing this acknowledgement but who have helped me in the course of my work.*

*Finally and above all, I thank **my parents** for their unconditional love, care, blessings and encouragement. I would thank my sisters **Dr. Piyali and Dr. Hema** and my brother **Dr. Akash** for their love, care, and support. It was my little nephew **Sriyan** and niece **Gungun** who with their innocence made me smile no matter how grave the situation was. Thank you for making my life more beautiful. I am also thank to my both **jjjus (Dr. Sujan and Dr. Amit)** for the moral support, care and blessings.*

Hemanti Mandal