

## Acknowledgements

The successful completion of my thesis would not have been possible without the continuous support and encouragement of the wonderful individuals. I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to my mentor, colleagues, family and friends.

First and foremost, I express my sincere gratitude to my guide **Prof. Rajesh Singh** for his unmatched mentorship. I thank you immensely for your excellent guidance, attention and constructive criticism in making my PhD experience interesting and productive. Despite making many errors and facing difficulties throughout my PhD studies, you have always encouraged me to correct my mistakes, motivated me to move on confidently and independently. Your commitment to science and insightful vision has tailored my doctoral training to be individualized and efficient which will enlighten my career in the forthcoming years. It's privilege to be your student.

I express my sincere gratitude to our research collaborators Prof . Peter M Chumakov, Engelhardt Institute of Molecular Biology, RAS, Moscow, Russia for the generous support, experimental assistance and helpful discussion. I am grateful to Prof. Madan M Godbole, SGPGIMS, Lucknow for providing patients samples. My sincere thanks to Prof. Eugene C. Yi, SNU, Seoul, Korea for the collaborative work and generous hospitality during the visit.

I am highly grateful to Late Prof. Kailash Paliwal and my doctoral committee members: Prof. Rasheedunnisa Begum, Prof. Sarita Gupta, and Dr. Vihas Vasu as well as Prof. R.J. Verma, for their constructive criticism, suggestions and motivation. I extend my sincere thanks to Prof. G. Naresh Kumar (especially for invigorating discussions and constant motivation), Prof. S. R. Acharya, Dr. Sanjeev Upadhyay, Prof. Pushpa Robin, Dr. Laxmi Nampoorthi, Dr. Ravi Vijayvargia, Dr. Devesh Suthar, Prof C. Ratna Prabha, Dr. Jayshree Phoenekar, Dr. Sunil Singh, Dr. Ashima Bharadwaj , Dr. Rochika Singh, Dr. TK Rajendra, Dr. Anant Tiwari, Dr. D.D. Singh, Dr. Anju Papachan and Dr. Chandramani Pathak for always helping and giving valuable inputs during my Ph.D. tenure. I acknowledge CSIR-UGC and DST, Govt. of India for the fellowship and the research funding respectively. I sincerely thank Department of Biochemistry for the administrative

support during my PhD and DBT-MSUB-ILSPARE for providing the instrumentation facility.

I express my heartfelt thanks to all the past and present members of RS lab both at IAR and MSU, for all the various scientific discussions, fun banter, parties and innovative experiences. It's been a privilege to initiate my PhD work under the guidance of amazing seniors, **Dr. Dhanendra Tomar**, Dr. Arun Kumar Singh, Dr. Khyati Bhatelia, Dr. Paresh Prajapati and Dr. Lakshmi Sripada. I not only benefit from your insightful guidance and wise advice but also your contribution in my personal and professional growth. I sincerely thank Dr. Dhanendra Tomar for his intensive training, continuous career support and friendship.

A very special word of gratitude goes to Milton Roy (friend-roomie-colleague) who have always been a major source of support when things would get a bit discouraging. I am highly grateful for your enduring friendship and look forward to many wonderful years beyond. Special thanks to friends and colleagues at RS lab- Dhruv, Anubhav, Anjali, Jyoti, Meenakshi, Fatema, Meenal, Mr. Hitesh Vasiyani and the M.Sc. students, for all their help, fun, support and delicious outings.

I am also very thankful for my friends- Dr. Priyabrata Mohanty, Dr. Kishu Ranjan, Dr. Vinod K, Dr. Dhaval Patel, Dr. Abhijeet Pandey, Manoj (roomie), Shahnawaz (for late night tea and discussion) and all the research scholars at MSU.

Parag has always been like an elder brother to me, standing with me through thick and thin with his selfless support and eternal friendship. I will be eternally grateful to my sisters, Madhu and Shweta, who have always supported and encouraged me to pursue my dreams and take my decisions independently without any undue pressure.

I am extremely indebted to my parents. I would have not achieved anything without your education and eternal love. Your understanding and tolerance with my working habits are always with me through the up and down time in my life. Last but not the least, I thank almighty God for being a hidden faith and force to accomplish my goals.

*December 2018*

*Kritarth Singh*