Acknowledgement

It gives me immense pleasure to look over my Ph.D. journey and remember all who have helped and supported me enroute. First and foremost, I would like to express my sincere and heartfelt gratitude towards my research supervisor, Dr. H. V. Thulasiram, for his invaluable advice, constructive support and his extensive discussions around my work, without which it would have been improbable for me to have completed my thesis. I am extremely grateful to him to have introduced me to the area of terpene biosynthesis and to have given me the opportunity to explore various dimensions.

I take this opportunity to sincerely acknowledge the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), New Delhi, for providing with the Junior and Senior Research Fellowships which facilitated me to carry out my work. I would like to thank The Director, National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Pune and HOD, Division of Organic Chemistry, for infrastructure and support to accomplish my research work.

It is probably the best time to express my obligations towards my M.Sc. professors, Prof. J. K. Pal, Prof. W. N. Gade and Retd. Prof. V. Sitaraman, for kindling my scientific interest and encouraging me to explore various dimensions.

I am highly indebted to Late Dr. M. I. Khan for sowing scientific seeds during my M.Sc. dissertation under him at NCL and to Dr. Sanjay Nene for providing me the opportunity to start my career in research. I would also like to thank Dr. R. V. Gadre and Mr. V. V. Jogdand for their continuous support and motivation throughout my tenure under Dr. Nene.

I am extremely obliged to Dr. Jomon Joseph, Dr. Ashok P. Giri, Dr. Mahesh J. Kulkarni, Dr. Vidya Gupta, Dr. Dhiman Sarkar and Dr. Srinivas Hotha for their continuous evaluation of my Ph. D. work and their valuable advice for the same.

I would like to extend my gratitude to Dr. S. Dhanashekaran, Dr. M. N. Jagdeesha, Dr. Suresh Kumar, Dr. Nilanjana Sengupta and Dr. Karthikeyan for their support and suggestions.

There is a reason we don’t thank friends, because it is too small a word in return for the unconditional love, support and encouragement that they share with you during your
best and worst times. Nevertheless, I would like to acknowledge my special friends, Gyan Prakash, Yashwant Kumar, Atul Anand, Jitendra Gupta, Harekrishna Punjal, Pradeep Soni, Sandeep Golegaonkar, Ravi Kalunke, Shamim Akhtar, Abhishek Mishra, Devdutta Dandekar and Shankar Suman.

“A journey is easier when you travel together.” Words fail me when I express my gratitude to Krithika Ramakrishnan, Soniya Mantri, Pankaj Daramwar, Rincy Sanjay, Sharanbasappa Gangashetty, Nilofer Jahan Attar, Shiva Shankar S., Avinash Pandreka Rakesh Joshi and Krunal Patel for their efforts in completing critical parts of my work, which would have been impossible without their help.

I would like to extend a huge thanks to my labmates, Pankaj, Swati, Atul, Saikat, Devdutta, Dipesh, Harshal, Namdev, Sudhir, Deepak, Rincy, Deepti, Nilofer, Trushna, Ashwini, Krithika, Sreekant, Prasad, Sharan, Imran, Rohil, Shiva, Soniya, Priya, Avinash, Vijayshree, Uttara, Rani, Anurag, Montu, Ramesha, Aarthy, Supriya, Anirban, Manoj, Balaji, Fayaz, Pruthviraj, Nilesh, Ajay, Vijay, Yashpal, Rahul and Khandekar Uncle for providing a healthy and pleasant environment for work.

My warm thanks to my room-mate, Chaitanya Kiran, for bearing with me for 5 years and extending brotherly love towards me. I would like to give a special mention to some of my friends at NCL, namely, Bhushan Sir, Suresh, Arvind, Kapil, Yogesh, Rishi, Mudit, Sanjay, Kaushal, Anand, Hemender, Anuj, Brijesh, Manoj, Prathit, Achintya, Manzoor, Mrityunjoy, Wahid, Prakash, Datta, Rupesh, Shweta, Arati, Rubina, Reema, Yugendra, Nishant, Jagdeesh, Tejal, Rupa and Vishwanath.

I am indebted to my friends since graduation, Neeraj, Nitesh, Manish, Santosh, Kishore, Saif, Amol, Vivek, Kumar, Luxman, Prashant, Pankaj Verma, Ranjeet, Manbodh and Diwakar Mishra for their constant support.

“The love of a family is life’s greatest blessing.” I would like to pay my highest regards to my family for their love, care, support, understanding and sacrifices: my late father, Dr. Dinesh Chandra Srivastava, my pillar of strength, my mother, Mrs. Saraswati Srivastava, my elder brother, Mr. Diwakar, who has always stood by me, my beloved sisters, Suman and Neelam, for never losing their faith in me, my younger brother, Sudhakar, who has been immensely supportive of me, my sister-in-law, Mrs. Anita, for
her care and affection and my little nephew, Arush, for inspiring me to go on. I would also like to thank my Uncles, Mr. Suresh Chandra Srivastava and Mr. Ramesh Chandra Srivastava, my aunts Mrs. Kalawati Srivastava and Mrs. Aparna Srivastava and my cousins Mr. Shat Rudra Srivastava and Mr. Shatbir Srivastava, Brajesh, Abhishek and Abhijeet for their support and encouragement.

    Last, but not least, I would like to thank God for the strength and courage He has bestowed upon me in every phase of my life.

--Prabhakar Lal Srivastava