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Following are the answers to the queries and comments made by external examiner as supplied by the Calcutta University at the time of revision. The revision as desired by the University was fulfilled to the best of my ability and a synopsis of the changes and modifications are given below .

1. In page 5 at the end of first paragraph, the ambiguity has been cleared.
2. The relevant literature regarding the role of ABA on embryo development has been accommodated on page 9. Similar recent information on ABA regulated gene expression has been provided on page 17-19 mentioning the work of Bartel et al and Zimmerman and others.
3. The pat gene has been accommodated as desired (page 21) .
4. *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* used does not harbour any GUS gene because it has very low GUS activity (fig.2.8).
5. Phytohormone concentration has been expressed in the molarities as suggested.
6. GUS gene is incorporated in the transformed plant because (a) genomic DNA after restriction enzyme digestion yields a single band around 23.1 Kb in the southern blot and (b) when northern blot hybridization has been performed using GUS gene as a probe, a single band was detectable corresponding to GUS messenger and (c) GUS activity has been detected in the flower and seed extract. All these suggest that plant used for experiment was transformed.
7. Methods for transferring putative transformed tobacco plant are described (page 27-28).
8. Fig.1.9 has been withdrawn because of its poor quality.
9. The detailed of ABA treatment as suggested has been incorporated at the end of materials and methods section.
10. The detection of 16 KDa like protein in plant, yeast and *Agrobacterium* is not an artifact since in the gel retardation assay, the mutated Gbox when used as a probe, no DNA-protein complex formation has been discernible (fig.3.8). Further the 16KDa like protein was not detectable in southwestern blot , ~~even~~ after the treatment of tobacco leaves with ABA and yeast if the same mutated Gbox was used as a probe. Since no such band was detectable, the figure was not given.

11. It has not been claimed anywhere that the 16KDa protein was same in the three systems but they are similar having molecular weight and Gbox binding properties.
12. A list of typographical errors was submitted separately earlier, however the paper was not sent due to some mistake from the University. Now, the spelling mistakes have been taken care of to the best of my ability.

Samarpan Majumder