ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I express my thankfulness to my supervisor Dr. Arun K. Attri, who introduced me to the exciting field of molecular crowding. He was always there to lend a helping hand, a sympathetic ear whenever the need arose. His nature kept the lab atmosphere just right, in spite of all the tensions prevalent in research.

Thanks are due to the Dean, Professor. J. Subba Rao, for providing research facilities for this work.

I would like to thank my lab mates Dr. Bhavesh, Dr. Arti, Avinash, Bhuneswari and Anil for their cooperation throughout this work. I would also like to thank friends Archana, Rajeev, Poonam, Indrani and Jati for their company throughout this work. Special thanks to my juniors Brijendra, Jitendra, Anup Biswas and Meenakshi.

Thanks are due to Mr. Nagendra Ray for his help during Lab work.

I would like to make a special mention of my dear husband, Dr. Saumitra Mukherjee for his endless cooperation and moral support during this work in both lab and home. I am thankful to my son Abhijit who blessed always with his golden smiles.

I shall like to express my gratitudes to my parents Professor A.B. Ray and Mrs. Purnima Ray, sisters Anshumitra and Pompa, as well as brother in laws Mr. B. Goswami and J. Sen Majumdar for their perineal support and encouragements. A very special thanks for all my in laws specially my mother in law Mrs. Bela Rani Mukherjee.

I would like to acknowledge the financial help provided by the U.G.C. in form of Junior & Senior research fellowships.

Anita Mukherjee