ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Apart from the efforts of me, the success of any project depends largely on the encouragement and guidelines of many others. I owe my deepest gratitude to Dr. (Mrs.) Alka Prakash, my supervisor and guide. I would always be thankful for her kind and valuable guidance which instilled in me a new attitude towards research, an enjoyable experience, her tremendous support and help in providing all the necessary facilities, words of enlightenment and personnel interest during the entire course of this investigation have been a constant source of an inspiration.

I am extremely thankful to Prof. Sant Prakash, Head, Department of Zoology, Faculty of Science, D.E.I. for his benevolent help in providing the standard cultures (MTCC-2958) from MTCC, Chandigarh. His advice and help in providing all the necessary chemicals pertaining to SEM, will be highly obliged.

I am also thankful to all my teachers who taught me in M.Phil and nurtured my mind. They were a constant source of inspiration and support.

I express my heartiest thanks to all my seniors – Dr. (Mrs.) (Priyanka Gautam, Mrs. Garima, Ms. Mahima, Ms. Anjali, Ms. Nikita and Ms. Shruti) for their willing help and dealing patiently to the queries I had during the course of my research.

I am thankful to Mr. Bhagat and Mr. Vinay for their general help and support.

I would like to thank my dearest friend Ms. Kalpana who was always there for me in every difficult, depressed and tough situations. She always encouraged me for positive results. And lastly without her this research experience would have not been fun without her.

I would like to offer my special thanks to Dr. B.L. Choudhary, Department of Physics, U.S.I.C., University of Rajasthan, Jaipur, for providing me help and permission to avail the benefit of SEM to carry out my experiments.

The most foremost thanks to my father, Mr. Anand Mehra without whose help and contacts the work of SEM was quite impossible. I also thank my parents for their constant support in stressed situations and having faith in me. I can never thank them enough for their understanding, the valuable family time I stole and put it in work. Special thanks to my dear sister whose generous support helped me out in the softdata assistance.

Last but not the least, my thanks to the almighty GOD who always had a solution for every problem.