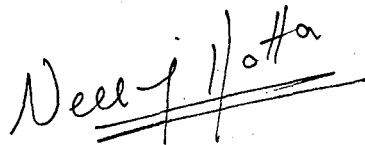


PREFACE

The research work embodied in this thesis has been carried out in the School of Life Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. This work is original and has not been submitted in part or full for any other degree or diploma of any University.



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