ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express my gratitude to Dr. Kailash C. Upadhyaya, Professor of Molecular Genetics, for his excellent guidance, constant encouragement and to be thoroughly involved in the course of investigation, for providing all the necessary facilities for this work, and many helpful effective suggestions in writing the thesis and solving all types of academic and social problems during my stay at Jawaharlal Nehru University.

My special thanks to;

Prof. G. S. Singhal, Prof. Prasanna Mohanty and Prof. M. Habibulla, previous Deans of the School and Prof. P. C. Kesavan the present Dean of the School of Life Sciences, for permitting to use the central instrument facilities for the research;

Prof. Sudhir Sopory for his interest in this line of investigation;

Prof. Asis Datta, and Dr. Alok Bhattacharya for generously allowing me to use their facilities, for the chemicals I received from their labs;

My colleagues Dr. M. Thungabhadra and Mr. D. Nalini Mohan for their initial help, Dr. Aparna Dixit, Dr. Vindhya, Dr. Ram Kishore, Dr. K.P. Singh, Mr. Madhu Vrut, Reema, I.P. Singh, Prasad, Salim, Fatima, Praveen and Kanchan for their wonderful co-operation and for always being ready to help;

Dr. Natarajan, Dr. Ganesan, Ramasre, Vivek, J. P., Aneeta, Daman and A. Mittal for the needful help;
Mr. Ajit Singh, Devraj and Radhe Shyam for their excellent laboratory assistance, Mr. Alexander, Khan, Ahamed and Sharma for providing technical help;

Mr. Saini for photography and Mr. Ishwar Kumar for word processing;

University Grants Commission for the financial support in the form of JRF and SRF;

Dr. Anthony R. Means, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston for electric eel cDNA;

Dr. Elliot Meyerowitz, CalTech for the genomic library of Arabidopsis thaliana;

Parent and relatives for their constant encouragement and moral support.

My effusive thanks will remain incomplete if I forget my wife Mrs. Kumkum who deserves a special acknowledgement for her co-operation and encouragement.

AMARESH CHANDRA