ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I take the opportunity to convey my sincere thanks to my supervisor Dr. Chinmay Kumar Mukhopadhyay for being the friend, philosopher and guide in the journey through my PhD degree. Words are inadequate to describe the inexplicable gratitude for all that you have done.

I also express my thanks to Prof. Birendra Nath Mallick for his help and guidance.

I thank Prof. P.K. Yadav, Dean, School of Life Sciences, for the support needed to carry out my PhD work. I would also like to thank Prof. R.K. Saxena and Prof. Alok Bhattacharya who has been the Dean of School of Life Sciences prior to Prof. Yadav, during the span of my PhD degree.

I would like to convey my sincere regards to Dr. Shyamal K. Goswami for providing me the guidance and precious help whenever needed.

I also take the opportunity to thank Dr. Suman K. Dhar, Dr. Rakesh Tyagi, and Dr. Gaurangi Mukhopadhyay from SCMM for always providing me the help and guidance whenever I was in need of.

I acknowledge CSIR for providing me the fellowship during the tenure of five years.

Thank you is too small a word to express my regards and gratitude to you Siddhartha. You made me realize my dreams and I know you are still there somewhere ready to help me as always.

The six angels of my life in JNU. Sangu (Sanghamitra), Sudhanshu, Janeman (Prasad), Choti (Angana), Ganesh, and Sanju (Sanjay). Sangu has been the sibling that God forgot to give me, always providing me with the strength to face life. Sudhanshu in his silent ways always made me feel that he is a protective brother, always there whenever I need to fall back. Thank you Prasad, for boosting me up whenever I needed that extra push and making me realize the meaning of my life. Life was always cool with spiced up Choti. The real life Santa and Banta, Ganesh and Sanjay, you are definitely the characters of my next novel. All of you have always filled my life with colours and joy in the worst of phases.

Dear Nida, you have always been a friend to treasure and provided me with food for thought. Wild were we and wilder our imaginations, but somewhere within the wilderness were our real, true and innocent selves. We will definitely complete our projects.

Arpna, Ranjita, Nandini, and Indrani, you have always made me feel home away from home. Gurmeet, Amrita, Mridu and Anu, my sincere thanks in helping me grow and mature. Life in hostel would have been very difficult without you.

I would also like to thank my dearest friends Bony, Dibyendu, Sucheta, Sushmita, Pankaj, Anita, Tulika, Dibyenduda, Palash and Prasad RC for their constant support.

This journey and work would have been impossible without the help and support of my labmates. Nipur, Sudipta, Chaitalidi, Sunil, Nisha, Amrit, Vandana and Vikash. Talking about music and hill stations with you Chaitalidi was always refreshing, even when I had a tough time with "you know who". Nipur, you always had the patience to hear my nonsense and come up with ways to tackle situations that were tough to me. Nisha dear, you have always been a younger sister to me, providing me the comfort during my tough times. Sudipta, your voice (speaker of CKM lab), movies and recipes will be my prized possession. Sunil, fighting with you was no doubt fun and I will
always remember the Bollywood characters inspired by you and the warmth that you always had for friends. Tinku Singh! Charreyet, taekwondo was fun and a great stress buster with you. Vikash! I could never get angry on you, you are different but very special, thanks for always being there whenever I needed you. Thank you Rimli for the computer games you taught me. My thanks also to Manoj (Madhav) and Stefani who although for a short duration, but gifted a quality life to me in the lab. Thank you all for sailing through the journey with me and the trip to Ranikhet and Kausani will be my most cherished memory.

Dear Neel and Manveenj (Tom and Jerry), PhD life would have been monotonous without your humourous and fun-filled live-show sessions. Besides, I am sincerely grateful for your guidance and help as seniors in the field.

My special thanks to Meenu ma’m for always helping me out with her evergreen smile. My thanks also to Nand Kumar ji, Naresh ji, Om Prakash ji, Rajesh, Deepak, Anongoda and Asharam ji.

I also take the opportunity to thank the office and CIF members of SLS, particularly Sharma Sir, Alexender Sir and Khan Sir.

My SCCM family, with whom I spent my entire PhD working time, I thank all of you from the core of my heart.

My special regards to Bisht Sir who not only taught me martial arts but also taught me the art to deal with life with a new approach, to hold myself when things go wrong and to fight back when inevitable.

I would also like to thank all my teachers from my school, college and university whose devoted contributions carved the person I am today. My special regards and thanks to Gojen sir, Lucy Ma’m and Maitrye Ma’m.

This journey would have been impossible without the constant support of my family. Maa, you have always provided me with the strength from within and taught me to follow the path of my heart, thereby making me responsible and mature. Baba you have developed in me the hunger for knowledge and to seek the truth. Bhai, sharing our joys and frustrations and growing up with you is an experience in itself, life would have been dry and charmless without you. All of you comprise the sanctuary of my life and every identity is filled with peace and happiness when I am with you.

..... Dola

.....It is easy to forget the ones with whom you have laughed, but impossible to forget the ones with whom you have cried. .......

Kahlil Gibran.