Acknowledgements

I joined CCMB on March first 2004 after a lot crying since it was first time away from home. I met Abhay and Satish, all three of us joined together. I remember me and Abhay talking (as if we were born to talk) and Satish 'a shy guy' (a misunderstanding). I came to lab my boss welcomed warmly and assigned me to work with Rajesh the very first day. Rajesh pestered me to go to hostel and take rest (since he was busy with his own thesis). After hanging around in lab it was lunch time and I met Shaheen in canteen, when told I am home sick (I used to tell the same to everyone whom I met) she said 'you will forget in few days'. I felt like the day is never going to end and finally I went to hostel. Hina and Sirisha came to my room and told me that 'we all are there don't worry you will not miss your home'. The next day was Holi and it was a holiday and for dinner I met my entire batch (except intel), which was my family here for six and a half years and there was never looking back, the fun started with Vineet saying “hum sab kho rooj nahi milna chahiye, we will get bored of each other's face". These people and many more whom I met during my stay in CCMB has made my long journey towards my degree a pleasant one. Though I am in a hurry I take pleasure to thank them......who made a difference.

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I acknowledge the present and past directors of CCMB for maintaining a well equipped lab and an excellent working culture. CCMB is the best place to work guys.............

I thank my senior Rajesh who took the pain to teach me right from casting gels since I did not have any practical exposure in molecular biology. The discussions with him regarding my work were fruitful and have given a shape to my thesis. His help in zebrafish work was worth mentioning.

Ravi is always a cheerful person who brings laugh to everyone by his terrific sense of humour and I thank uma (Mrs Ravinder) who always sends me an aliquot of "lemon rice" whenever she makes. Naseer for making my primers in a priority basis and Deepthi Naseer for the vegetable haleem. Ranga Rao for his helping nature and kind words which used to ease my tensions.

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I wait for the dialogues “nahi hai nahi hai, kal aao” he says these words without even listening to what chemicals the person wants. It has made to splits most of the times and forget my tensions.

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Vineet (target escaped, current location London) and Vinesh has never made me miss fighting’s at home, coz whenever sad, can just go, bug them, fight with them, forget my tensions and feel good. Geeta and Navneet, were always there for serious talks, as well as silly talks. I don’t have words to thank Rajesh who helped me, in recovering back to normalcy when I messed up my health. I don’t want to thank Geeta, Navneet and Shaheen for the time they spent with me in visiting doctors but I can never forget these guys ................

There was a time when my morpholinos were ready and I was wondering how to reach the micro injector which is in a height, with my height of 5 feet 2 inches, and then enter Ajay 6 feet over who helped me in carrying out zebrafish injections.

Cooking always fascinated me and my two teachers in cooking were, one is Vijaya who made vain attempts to teach me to cook who terribly failed and gave up and the other was Vinesh who has realized the first day my cooking talents and preferred to cook and give me instead of teaching me. My other two occasional cooks were Sunanda and Archana. Sampath prefers to get me “tiger rice” instead of cooking. Guys one day I will learn cooking and definitely will feed you people.

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I might have surely missed some people whom I need to thank, please excuse me as I am having memory loss due to haste of thesis preparation.

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Uma Neelathi.