2.0 AIM AND OBJECTIVES

White spot syndrome virus (WSSV) is the causative agent of white spot syndrome (WSS) in shrimp. This disease has caused huge production losses to most of the shrimp producing countries of the world. Earlier studies were indicated geographical variations for differences in virulence of WSSV. Researchers have tested several strategies including antivirals, immunostimulants and high (32-33°C) or low (< 15°C) water temperature to control WSSV. In those studies, the virulence of the isolates and titer of the virus stock were unknown and the inoculation method did not ensure the exposure of a certain amount of infectious titer to each animal. Keeping this is mind, the present study is mooted out to analyze the incidence of WSSV in chosen area and to findout the ways to control WSSV in shrimps through the following objectives.

The aim of this thesis is (i) to examine the sources of WSSV outbreak in the shrimp aquaculture. (ii) to examine seasonal occurrence or outbreak of disease in different stages of animals and level of virulence in chosen area, (iii) to findout the antiviral bioactive substances from chosen medicinal plants for controlling the WSSV virus. iv) to findout the active chemical classes possessing antiviral property.