Standing with this proud moment I am very grateful for all I have received throughout these years. It has certainly shaped me as a person and has led me where I am now. All these years of Ph.D studies are full of such gifts.

I want first to thank venerable, humanely, and sagacious Dr. Neeraj Kumar, Assistant professor, Microbiology Department, Kurukshetra University Kurukshetra my Supervisor, for all the hope he has put on me, before I thought I could do any research at all. His gracious and motivating standing in the field of science speaks volumes and is well acknowledged nationally and internationally. Either near or far his executable and infallible strategies kept me afloat through the ebbs and flow of research life. During half of decade of knowing him, he has helped me to see life and science in their full depth, and taught me how to appreciate the good scientific work that helps other researchers to build on it. His artistic direction, invaluable advices proved effective in turbulent time. His deep intuitions and pervasive perception has enlightened me to stand up and face challenges. For me he was the first and foremost who stood by me and pave the path for where I am standing today.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to accomplished, august, considerate and compassionate Dr. Dolly Wattal Dhar, Professor, Microbiology Department, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa, New Delhi, my Co-Supervisor for providing facilities to conduct some of my research work in the present study. This has provided me with an opportunity to learn different aspects of cyanobacterial regime. She helped me in identification and culturing of cyanobacteria. Besides this I have also got an
exposure of molecular biological techniques such as DNA isolation and PCR in her lab.
She, a luminary, is wonderful human being and made me able to complete my task under
her motherly touch and insightful guidance. Her pious proximity, prudent steps,
meticulous working methodology, larger than life appeal has been motivating factors for
me and would be in future too. She is not a well acclaimed scientist by post but by her
vision and deeds. Without her I could not have stayed and nurtured here in such a
serene and productive environment. Simply, my efforts would have not reached the
result without her gracious and never go away presence.

I wish to acknowledge and thank Vice Chancellor, Dean Life Sciences, Chairperson and
faculty members (Microbiology Department) **Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, Haryana** for providing me the opportunity to do my Ph.D. program at this prestigious
University. I also wish to acknowledge **Director, Indian Agricultural research
Institute, Pusa, New Delhi** for providing me all facilities in laboratory.

With a sense of pride and ecstasy I take this privilege to express my profound respect,
obligations and heartfelt gratitude to **Dr. Sunil Pabbi (Principal scientist), Dr. G.
Abraham (Principal scientist), Dr. Y.V. Singh (Principal scientist) and Dr. Anju Arora
(Senior Scientist) of CCUBGA lab** for their constant encouragement, motivation,
support and unparalleled execution of essential requisites during the course of present
investigation.

I am highly indebted to estimable technical officer of CCUBGA **Dr. Sudhir Saxena**, like my elder brother, for his encouragement, prayers, cooperation and generous help
throughout the course of study. He always blessed and motivated me to go for big and
kept standing on with me at the time of need. I want to express my venerable thanks to
technical officers (CCUBGA) **Shri Raghubir Saha** and **Shri Dinesh Kumar Diwakar**
for their motivation, blessings and support.
I cordially acknowledge the ineptness to my colleagues Roshan, Dr. Hillol, Chetan, Ravinder, Mitdru Mukherjee, Borase, Raman Pandit, Arvind, Harshvardhan and Bagul for their cooperation, timely and invaluable help, fruitful discussions and motivation during the course of experimentation and compiling of thesis. Their pervasive knowledge and helping hands assisted me a lot while working in the lab and made my journey of accomplishing task easier. I am very thankful to my colleagues namely Dr. Gulab Yadav and Dr. Deepansh Sharma for their help and assistance rendered to me during the period of my study.

I want to express my sincere thanks to Dr. D.P. Singh (Scientist, DRDO) for their invaluable help, suggestions and unhindered steps rose to elevate my moral in different phase of this tenure. I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to Dr. S. Subramanian (Principal scientist) and Dr. Rahul from Division of Entomology, IARI for his invaluable help in the present study.

I seize this unique opportunity to earnestly express my gratitude for my estimable family members, whose unconditional support, sleepless nights, blessings, mountainous patience, silent understanding and everlasting inspiration contributed immensely in standing firmly and in forging ahead unwaveringly. Many gratefulness to my loving Bua ji (Ms Tirpati devi), Tau ji (Shri Tansen Choudhary), Tai ji (Smt. Rajbala Devi), My father (Shri Jagat Pal Singh), My Mother (Smt. Saroj Devi), My elder brother (Mr. Vijay Kumar), My younger brothers (Mr. Rohit, Mr. Bharat and Mr. Kapil), My Bhabhi (Smt. Sikha, Smt. Vandana, Smt. Prachi), My Grand Father (Subedar Randhir Singh), My Father in law (Shri Narendra Nehra), My Mother in law (Smt. Munesh Nehra), My Brother in Law (Mr. Prashant Nehra), My Sister in law (Ms. Pooja Nehra) for being with me in every moment of tension and rejoice and the faith they have shown in me in every step which I have taken and enabled me to see today “The joy of task done”. They have been friends, philosophers and guides in every phase of my life.
Finally, and most importantly, I would like to thank My wife Priyanka Nehra and My lovely Daughter Aarohi. Her support, encouragement, quiet patience and unwavering love were undeniably the bedrock upon which the past two years of my life have been built. Her tolerance of my occasional vulgar moods is a testament in itself of her unyielding devotion and love.

To Almighty I bow with reverence and gratitude.

(Devendra Kumar)