ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is a moment of great pleasure for me to express my sincere unfeigned gratitude and indebtedness to my supervisor, Prof. P.S. Srivastava, Department of Biotechnology and Dean, Faculty of Science, Jamia Hamdard for his persistent, diligent care, illustrious guidance and unparallel vision during entire period of my Ph.D. programme.

I express my unfeigned gratitude and respect to my Co-Supervisor Prof. K.R. Koundal, Joint Director (Research), Indian Agricultural Research Institute, for his illustrious unparalleled vision, enthusiasm, inspiration and stimulating guidance during entire course of my investigation and preparation of the thesis.

I express thanks to Dr. (Mrs.) Rekha Kansal, Senior Scientist, National Research Laboratory, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, who helped and cooperate me each and every step through out the course of investigation. The necessary help by Dr. Pankaj Kumar, Mr. R. N. Gupta and Dr. R. S. Niranjan is also duly acknowledged.

I also thank to Dr. B. Subrahmanyan, Principal Scientist, Division of Entomology, IARI for their useful guidance and provide permission for insect bioassay in his laboratory which was also a part of this investigation.

I am very thankful to Prof. M. Z. Abdin, Head and all teachers of the Department of Biotechnology, Jamia Hamdard, Prof. S. K. Jain, Dr. Farhat Afrin, Dr. Sandeep Das, Dr. Alka Narula and Dr. Humaira Farooqui whose useful suggestions and help could enable the progress of this work.

I thanks to Mr. Amit Mishra, Dr. Akeflesh Kumar, Mr. Anshuman, Dr. Toolka, Dr. Maryam Sawat, Miss. Alka Singh, Miss. Sumiya Jamsheed, Miss. Shivanee Kaul, Mr. Zahid Ali, Mr. Showkat and all lab members for their timely help, co-operation and providing a congenial atmosphere in the laboratory. The necessary help of Mr. Satish and Mr. TP Singh is also duly acknowledged.

With regards, I wish to express my heartiest gratitude to my Parents for their affection and blessing. A word of acclaim is due to my beloved wife Mrs.
Ravishta whose constant support through all ups and downs of my life, and sacrifices could bring me this far. I thank to my Jijaji Mr. Satish Chandra, Sister Santosh Chandra, Brothers Mr. Dinesh Kumar and Mr. Sudeesh Kumar and other family members for their constant support.

The financial assistance provided by NATP (ICAR) in form of Senior Research Fellowship is thankfully acknowledged.

New Delhi

Date:

(Mukesh Kumar)