Acknowledgements

It gives me extreme honor and great pleasure to express my profound gratitude and reverence to my esteemed mentor and guide Prof. S.K. Gakhar, Centre for Medical Biotechnology, M.D. University, Rohtak, for his invaluable help, prudent suggestions and incessant encouragement at every stage of this study, which led me through the difficult course of research. Working under his adroit guidance has been an enriching experience both at scientific and personal level.

I am greatly indebted to my Co-supervisor, Prof. Pratima Ray, Department of Biotechnology, Jamia Hamdard Deemed University, New Delhi for her keen interest, indispensable guidance and encouragement.

I extend my humble thanks to Prof. P.K. Jaiwal, Director, Centre for Biotechnology, MDU, Rohtak, for his kind cooperation and support. Words are not sufficient to express my gratitude to Prof. Pushpa Dahiya, Director, Centre for Medical Biotechnology for giving me some relaxation from the tight schedule and her valuable support.

Individual acknowledgement is also due for Dr. Sunder Singh Arya, a senior or a friend (I can’t distinguish) for his unflinching support and motivation. I wish to express my sincere thanks to all the faculty members of Centre for Medical Biotechnology Dr. Amita Sunee Dang, Dr. Anil Kumar, Dr. Rashmi Bhardwaj (who have more been good friends than colleagues to me) for their support.

The valuable suggestions from the faculty members Prof. P. Mehta, Dr. Anil Chillar, Dr. Samander Singh, Dr. Darshna Chaudhary, Dr. Sarvajit Gill and Dr. Neterpal Singh are gratefully acknowledged.

Very special thanks to Dr. Rajesh Kumar for always being there to advise me at critical points of my tenure. I also express my sincere thanks to my labmates Ashwani Yadav, Arvind Sharma, Richa Sharma, Manish Kumar and Monika Miglani for their cooperation and creating a lively environment during my stint in the lab.

When emotions are involved, the words cease to mean. There are no words to pay regards to my parents who sacrificed a lot for my welfare and brought me up to this esteemed stage and taught me the value of hard work by their own example. What I am today is due to inseparable support and prayers of my parents and in laws.

The diamond in the ring of my career was due to the true, loyal and pure company of my ever best friend and life partner, Mrs. Priyanka Saini, who always encouraged me to have faith in myself and who bore all the difficulties coming to my way herself. The brunt of my Ph.D research was borne mostly by loving son, Shaurya Saini. I would like to express my sorry to him for not sparing the time he deserves.

I aver my heartfelt thanks to my esteemed brothers, sisters, brother in laws, uncles and aunts for their love and encouragement throughout my studies. Special thank should go to my brothers Sandeep, Hitesh and sisters Manisha, Ashu for always being with me more as friends.

I would also like to acknowledge Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak for providing me financial support and platform due to which I could complete this herculean task.

I am extremely thankful to The Almighty God for His grace and blessings, which provided me courage to sail through this journey.

Place: Rohtak
Date: December, 2014

Hari Mohan