2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

In the light of above facts, the objectives of the study are:

- To isolate and investigate the pharmaceutical properties of the okra gum to assess its suitability as a carrier for colon specific drug delivery system.
- Design and development of okra gum based colon specific tablet formulations for chronotherapeutic delivery of drugs, Theophylline and Diclofenac sodium, in colon for the treatment of diseases like asthma and rheumatoid arthritis, respectively.
- To evaluate the prepared tablet formulations for physical properties.
- *In-vitro* drug release studies of prepared formulations in simulated conditions of GIT.
- *In-vivo* pharmacokinetic studies of promising batches of prepared formulations.
- Short-term stability studies of optimized formulations as per ICH guidelines.