ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude and appreciation to my teacher and research supervisor, Dr. H.Z. Ninnekar, Professor and former Chairman, P.G. Department of Studies in Biochemistry, Karnataka University, Dharwad for his valuable guidelines, fruitful discussions, constant inspiration and affection throughout this research work.

I am thankful to Prof. Dr. J. R. Gadag, Chairman, and Dr. S. B. Hinchigeri, former Chairman of the P.G. Department of Studies in Biochemistry, Karnataka University, Dharwad for their encouragement, help and support during the course of my research.

I am grateful to Dr. G. S. Gadaginamath, Retd. Professor, P.G. Department of Studies in Chemistry, Karnataka University, Dharwad for his valuable discussions and useful suggestions in my research work. I am thankful to Dr. P. B. Gai, Professor and Coordinator, P.G. Department of Studies in Applied Genetics, Karnataka University, Dharwad for his help and support in my research work.

I am thankful to Dr. Yogesh Shouche, Scientist, National Center for Cell Sciences, Pune for his help in carrying out my research work. My regards to Dr. K. S. Jagadeesh, Professor, Department of Microbiology and Dr. O. Sridevi, Associate Professor, Department of Genetics, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, for their help in providing instruments to carryout my research work.
I am thankful to my friends Dr. Nagaraj Naik, Research Associate and Chandrashekharaiah, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad for their help in my research work. My thanks to my friend Dr. Vinod K. Lakkappan for his help and support during my research work.

I am thankful to all of my friends and research colleagues in the Department of Biochemistry, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology and Physics of Karnataka University, Dharwad for helping me during my research work.

My heartfelt thanks to my beloved parents Shri. Stanley Robert Hoskeri, Smt. Suman Stanley Hoskeri and brother Mr. Ronald Stanley Hoskeri for their moral support and care during my research.

I am thankful to the authorities of the U.S.I.C. Karnataka University, Dharwad for providing me the instrumental facilities needed to carryout my research work.

Finally, I thank one and all who have helped me in carrying out my research work.

Dharwad
January, 2008

Robertcyril S. Hoskeri