LIST OF TABLES		
No. of tables	Title of table	Page numb er
Table 1	Riboswitches mediated genetic control in several organisms	13
Table 2	List of small RNAs involved in bacterial pathogenesis	21
Table 3	List of surface associated and secreted virulent factors of <i>S. aureus</i>	30
Table 4	List of functionally characterised small RNAs in S. aureus	37
Table 5	List of bacterial strains used in this study	45
Table 6	List of plasmids used in this study	46
Table 7	List of primers used in this study	47
Table 8	Concentration of antibiotics, IPTG and X-gal used in this study	48
Table 9	PCR conditions used in the present study	51
Table 10	Composition of RNA-PAGE	54
Table 11	Real time PCR reaction system and its program	56
Table 12	Reaction system for in vitro transcription of RNA	59
Table 13	Reaction system for in vitro RNA-RNA interaction	60
Table 14	Pathogenicity island (PaIs) encoded small RNAs in S. aureus Newman	63
Table 15	List of mRNA targets of pathogenicity island encoded small RNAs in <i>S. aureus</i> Newman	64
Table 16	The copy number of SprX gene among the genomic sequences of <i>S. aureus</i> MRSA and MSSA strains	68
Table 17	Bioinformatic prediction of targets of SprX1 and their base pairing region	70
Table 18	Digestive band pattern of genomic loci of <i>sprX</i> in <i>S. aureus</i> Newman and disrupted strain	78
Table 19	Base pairing interaction of SprB and its selected putative mRNA targets	94