ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I express my deep gratitude to Dr. D.S. Pradhan, Head, Nucleic Acid Metabolism Section of this Division for his guidance and constant encouragement throughout the course of these studies.

My grateful thanks are due to Dr. N.F. Lewis, Head, Microbiology Section of this Division for providing me immediate guidance and other much needed help.

My sincere thanks are also due to:

Dr. G.B. Nadkarni, Head of this Division for his keen interest and encouragement;

Dr. C.K.K. Nair and Dr. K.G. Chetty for their unstinted help in the preparation of manuscript;

Dr.(Mrs) A. S. Kamat and Dr. D. P. Nerkar for helping in various ways;

Mr. S.V. Pawar for the drawings, and Mr. P.C. Karunakaran for typing.

Miss A.R. Shah Biochemistry & Food Technology Division Bhabha Atomic Research Centre Bombay The work presented in the thesis is original and is carried out by me. It has not been submitted previously for any other degree of either M.S. University of Baroda or any other University. References made to the work of others have been cited in the text.

b. S. Prodham.
(D. S. Pradhan)

Research Guide

A. R. Shah)

Candidate