1. **Title of the Research Project**: “Enhancement of Lovastatin Production Using Induced Mutations in *Aspergillus terreus*”

2. **Financial support**: Govt. of India, Dept. of Atomic Energy (DAE), Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences, (BRNS), BARC, Mumbai.

3. **Principal Investigator (PI)**: Dr. A. A. Fulzele

4. **Total Budget**: Rs. 24,75,000/-

5. **Summary**: Statins are among the natural pharmaceutically important products, positioned in **first place of top 35 worldwide ethical drugs**. Natural statins is a group of fungal metabolites, which shows hypocholesterolemic action by blocking cholesterol biosynthesis. It reduces cardiac disease related mortality. Statin helps in treatment of fungal diseases, also reported that cancer incidence is reduced by 28-33 %. It decreases inflammation and it directly attenuates the virulence of microorganisms. Lovastatin is a natural statin commercially produced from *A. terreus*. The capacity of wild strain to produce statin is low, therefore it is imperative to develop fungal strains which are having capacity to produce lovastatin and evolved mechanism to develop new high productive fungal strains by mutation. The process of strain improvement involves the continuous genetic modification of fungi. Research project is an effort to enhance the ability of statin production an important drug by inducing mutations in *A. terreus*. 