



## **GLOSSARY**

**Culture Media:** A growth medium or culture medium is a solid or semisolid or liquid designed to support the growth of microorganisms or cells.

**Gelatinase:** it is an enzyme, which is produced by most proteolytic bacteria.

**Agar:** Agar is a polysaccharide that is derived from red seaweed. Its ability to melt at 85 to 90 °C, solidify at 34 to 42 °C and is used as solidifying agent culture media.

**Photoautotrophs:** Organisms that have pigments that enable them to utilize solar energy are called photoautotrophs.

**Synthetic media:** A synthetic or chemically defined media is one whose exact chemical composition is known.

**Enriched medium:** Addition of extra nutrients in the form of blood, serum, egg yolk etc, to basal medium makes them enriched media.

**Selective medium:** Selective media are used for the growth of only selected microorganisms.

**Differential media:** Differential media make it easy to distinguish colonies of desired organisms from nondesirable colonies growing on the same plate.

**Basic media:** Basal media are basically simple media that supports most non-fastidious bacteria. Peptone water, nutrient broth and nutrient agar are considered as basal medium.