Claims

1. Bacterium belonging to Bacillus species wherein the bacterium is isolated *Bacillus subtilis* ssp. *shriramensis* having the accession number MTCC-5674, and wherein the bacterium exhibits antifungal activity against 1) the plant microbes causing disease selected from a group consisting of, fusarium wilt, sheath blight, sheath rot, anthracnose, turcicum blight and charcoal rot in plants and 2) human pathogens selected from a group consisting of *Penicillium* ssp. , *Aspergillus flavus, Aspergillus niger and Aspergillus nidulans* and plant growth promoting activity.

2. A pure culture of the bacterium as claimed in claim 1.

3 A composition comprising the bacterium as claimed in claim 1, wherein the composition exhibits antifungal activity against 1) the plant microbes causing disease selected from a group consisting of fusarium wilt, sheath blight, sheath rot, anthracnose, turcicum blight and charcoal rot in plants and 2) human pathogens selected from a group consisting of *Penicillium* ssp. , *Aspergillus flavus , Aspergillus niger and Aspergillus nidulans ;* and b) plant growth promoting activity.

4. The composition as claimed in claim 3, wherein the composition comprises $5x10^5$ cfu/ml to $5xl0^7$ cfu/ml of the bacterium.

5. The composition as claimed in claim 3 or claim 4, further comprising one or more antimicrobial and/or antifungal and plant growth promoting agents.

6. The composition as claimed in any one of claims 3 to 5, further comprising an agriculturally acceptable carrier.

7. The use of the bacterium as claimed in claim 1 or the use of the composition as claimed in any one of claims 3 to 6, in the manufacture of a medicament for inhibiting the growth of human pathogens selected from a group consisting of *Penicillium* ssp., *Aspergillus flavus, Aspergillus niger and Aspergillus nidulans.*

8. The bacterium as claimed in claim 1 or the composition as claimed in any one of claims 3 to 6, whenever used for the preparation of an antifungal and plant growth promotion composition for inhibiting the growth of plant microbes causing disease, selected from a group consisting of, fusarium wilt, sheath blight, sheath rot, anthracnose, turcicum blight and charcoal rot in plants.

5