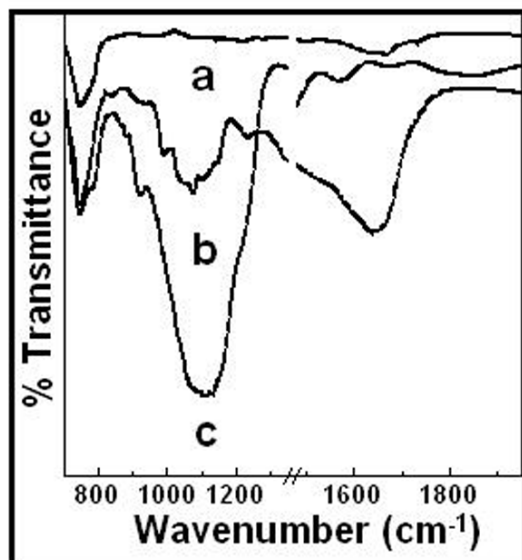


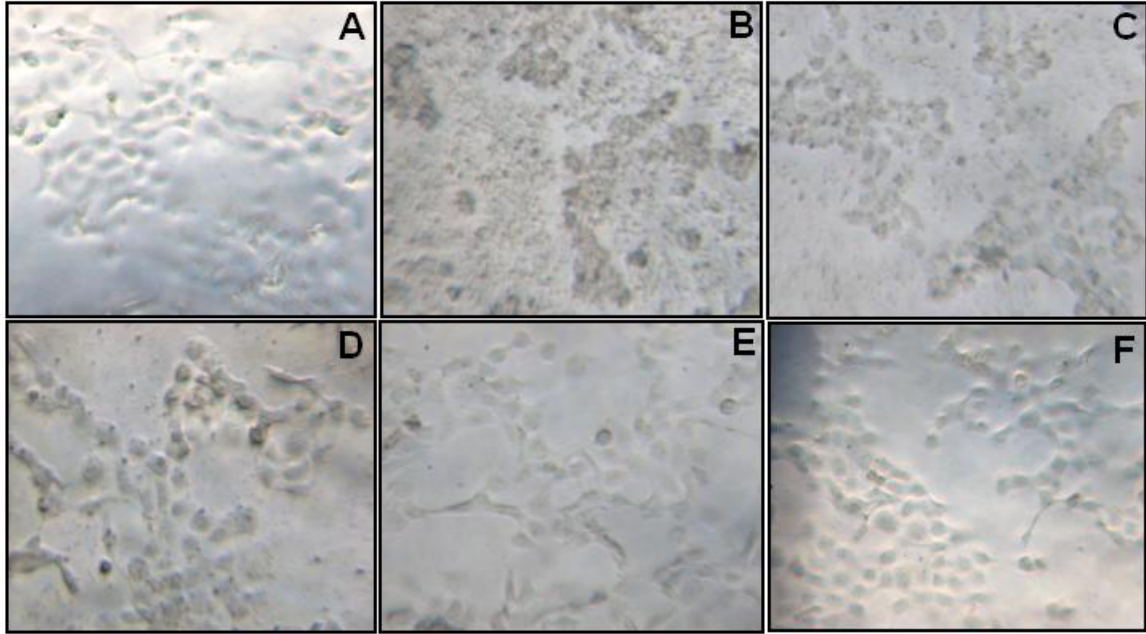
Electronic Supporting Information (ESI)

Bacterial Synthesis of Silicon/Silica Nanocomposites

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ESI-Fig. 1 FTIR spectra recorded from Si/SiO₂ nanocomposites synthesized by the exposure of K₂SiF₆ to *Actinobacter* sp. before (curve-2) and after (curve-3) calcination at 400 °C for 4 h. Curve-1 shows FTIR spectra recorded from salt precursor K₂SiF₆.



ESI-Fig. 2 Morphology of Human epithelial (A431) cells after the incubation with Si/SiO₂ nanocomposite for 3h. A-Control, B-10 mM, C-5 mM, D-1 mM, E-500 μM and F-50 μM of Si/SiO₂ nanocomposites.