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Natural Occurrence of *Euphorbia leaf curl virus* (EuLCV) Infecting Zinnia in India

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***Abstract*:** In the year 2020, plants of *Zinnia elegans* were observed to be showing viral disease symptoms on campus of Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana. The plants exhibited puckering, thickening and curling of leaf lamina. Nucleic acid based detection of the associated pathogen was done *via* PCR. The sequencing of the desired amplicon from coat protein (CP) region of the virus confirmed the association of *Euphorbia leaf curl virus* (EuLCuV). The variable symptoms *viz.,* accession no. OK094316 shared 95.98 % nucleotide similarity with EuLCuV Fujian isolate. Polymerase chain reaction on the basis of phylogenetic as well as species demarcation tool, the isolate in the study was considered as *Euphorbia leaf curl virus* (EuLCuV). To best of our knowledge, this is the first report of occurrence of EuLCV in India on zinnia.

***Keywords*:** Begomovirus, Coat protein, PCR, Zinnia, *Euphorbia leaf curl virus*