DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the entire work reported in this thesis is the result of investigations carried out by me in the X-ray Laboratory of the Department of Physics, Bangalore University, Bangalore-560 056, under the guidance of Dr. Puttaraja and Dr. (Mrs.) K.A. Nirmala and that it has not been submitted for the award of any degree, diploma, fellowship or similar title of any University or Institution.

In keeping with the general practice in reporting of scientific observations, due acknowledgements have been made wherever the work is based on the findings of other investigators.

Bangalore
November, 1991

T.N. Chandrakantha