

STATEMENT

I do hereby declare that the work embodied in this thesis is the result of investigations carried out by me in the **School of Chemistry, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, India**, and **Department of Inorganic and Physical Chemistry, Indian Institute of Science, India**, under the supervision of **Prof. Eluvathingal D. Jemmis**.

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

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