DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the subject matter embodied in the thesis entitled *Diastereoselection in the benzylolation of cyclic β-keto ester enolates: remote substituent effects* is the result of the investigations carried out by me in the laboratory of the Department of Chemistry, Pondicherry University. Pondicherry under the guidance of Professor H. Surya Prakash Rao, Department of Chemistry and that it has not been submitted for the award of any other degree or diploma, membership of this or any other university or Institution.

In keeping with the general practice in reporting scientific observation, due acknowledgments has been made wherever the work described is based on the findings of other investigators. Due acknowledgement is given for the technical services utilized.

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